Introduction to Movie Reviews

Journalism

Top 10 Best Actors Since 2000

Top 10 Best Actresses Since 2000

Top 10 Highest Grossing Movies Since 2000

Top 10 Best Directors Since 2000

Top 10 Best Animated Movies

Top 10 Best Films in a Series

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Top 10 Best Comedies

Top 10 Best Suspense/Horror Films

Top 10 Best Action Films

Top 10 Films Before 2000

Top 10 Box Office Duds

**Mrs. Clay’s Top 10 Personal Favorites**

The Princess Bride, The Bourne Trilogy

All Harry Potter films, The Lion King, Freedom Writers, Forrest Gump, The Incredibles, The Fugitive, The Pursuit of Happyness, Toy Story

**Popular Movie** **Awards/Events**

Golden Globes – Hollywood Press Association

Sundance Film Festival

BAFTA – British Academy of Film Television Arts

Cannes Film Festival

Oscars – also known as the Academy Awards

SAG – Screen Actors Guild

Teen Choice Awards

People’s Choice Awards

MTV Movie Awards

**MPAA**

**M**otion **P**icture **A**ssociation of **A**merica –

American trade association that represents the six major Hollywood studios

Currently administers the film rating system

G – General Audiences – all ages

PG – Parental Guidance suggested

PG-13 – Parents Strongly Cautioned

R – Restricted – adult material

NC-17 – Adults Only – 17 & under not admitted

**IMDb**

**I**nternational **M**ovie **D**ata**b**ase

World’s largest collection of movie, TV, video game, and celebrity information

**Movie Rating Websites**

IMDb

Rotten Tomatoes

Metacritic

Common Sense Media

Kids-in-Mind

Plugged In

Roger Ebert.com

**Genres**

Action Animated

Biography Comedy

Crime Documentary

Drama Family

Fantasy History

Horror Musical

Mystery Romance

Romantic Comedy Science Fiction

Thriller War

Western

**Major Studios**

Walt Disney

Warner Brothers/Time Warner

21st Century Fox

Sony

Columbia Pictures

Paramount Pictures

Universal Pictures

MGM

DreamWorks Studios

Lionsgate

Pixar

Marvel Studios

**Trailers**

Promotional preview of a coming attraction

Advertisement or commercial for a feature film which contains clips or highlights of a forthcoming movie

* Name comes from the earliest trailers came after the movie.

**Premieres**

The first public performance or showing of a film or show. Movie production companies often publicize these as “red carpet” events.

**Spoilers**

Information that reveals important plot elements (ending or major plot twist) that spoils or ruins a surprise

Robs the viewer/reader of the suspense and enjoyment of the film

**Score vs Soundtrack**

Score – mostly instrumental music so as not to compete with the dialogue, composed specifically for the film to enhance the story; often written by one person for an orchestra

Soundtrack – collection of popular music by different artists, this is music that influences the film or is featured within in; often these songs were not written specifically for the movie

**Cinematography**

The art of capturing imagery on film for a movie

A cinematographer works closely with the director to orchestrate the lighting of the scene and movement of cameras to capture the action of an entire sequence

**Special Effects**

Visual and sound illusions to simulate imagined events

created for movies by props, make up, stunt doubles, camera work (miniaturized or enlarged images) and complex computer graphics