

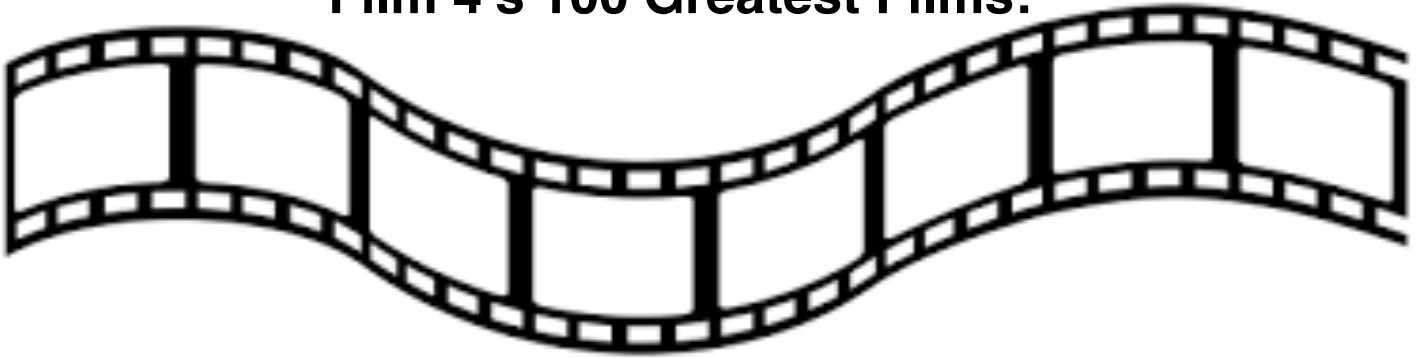
# Film Studies - Home Learning Booklet

## Film Diary



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Film 4's 100 Greatest Films:



### Task:

- 1) Tick off/and total all of the films that you have seen from this list (be completely truthful)
- 2) Select **two** films from the list that you haven't seen and complete the review sheets.

Film Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Director: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of release: \_\_\_\_\_

In your review of the films cover the following points:

- the films narrative (storyline)
- the films genre
- why you chose to watch the film?
- what was good about the film?
- what was bad about the film?
- the films target audience
- why do you think this film made the 100 greatest film of all time?
- do you agree that it should be on the list and where it ranked out of 100?

Film 1:

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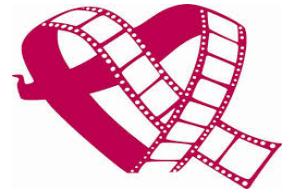
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# LOVEFiLM



If you are anything like me, you are probably watching a lot of TV at the moment. I am watching new things things that I wouldn't usually have the chance to watch, and using the time to re-watch some of my favourite films and TV series.

## Task:

- Keep a list of all the films that you watch during your home learning experience and make brief note about what was good/bad about the film.
- As you are watching the film, pay particular attention to the **construction** of the film (the way that the film has been put together) and how this has deliberately been done to create meaning for an audience.
- Everything from the costumes, lighting choices, camera shots, music and editing has all been carefully considered to create meaning.
- **Make notes on some of these elements of filmmaking**

### Film 1 - Teacher example:

**Title** 'Rocky' - written by and starring Sylvester Stallone

**Director** John Alvidson

**Date seen** 20/04/20 - but I have seen the Rocky films several times before

**I would give this film 5 / 5 stars (colour in star rating) because** *the Rocky films are absolute classics. The first Rocky film won the Oscar in 1976 for Best Picture. It is the classic story of the underdog; Rocky Balboa (Stallone) is a 30 year old 'bum' from the underprivileged and working class dock yard neighbourhood of Philadelphia. He makes ends-meet as a debt collector/enforce for a low-level Italian gangster, and spends his evenings getting his face pummelled in boxing matches. His life is going nowhere - and he knows it, he is uneducated and feels pretty hopeless about his circumstances. Balboa is certainly a character with more brawn than brains - but he is kind-hearted and a character with a good moral compass, and this is what makes him likeable and endears an audience to empathise with him.*

*Balboa is given the opportunity of a lifetime when the boxing champion Apollo Creed is in need of an opponent for a high profile title match, Balboa is thrust into the limelight and the serious world of title-fight boxing - although the whole world knows its just a publicity stunt - even Rocky...but a guy can dream big right?*

*With the odds of even making it to round 2 against the reigning champ stacked against him, Rocky trains like he's never trained before, and the audience are with him every step of the way as he conditions his body and mind for the biggest fight of his life. The editing style uses lots of parallel narrative scenes and cross-cutting that moves back and forth between the two very different training methods of Apollo and Rocky - this allows*

*the audience to decide if there is a particular character they prefer...I'll let you into a secret...it's most likely going to be Rocky!*

*On the surface Rocky is as dumb as a bag of spanners...and he admits it. He tells the audience (through dialogue) that his dad didn't have much hope for him and said that getting punched in the face for a living would all he would ever be any good at - it's moments like these that the audience can really feel sympathetic towards the character and you are willing him to succeed at something and finally feel good about himself.*

*Please don't think that this is merely a film about men hitting each other - there is a lot more to it than that. Interwoven into the boxing narrative is a really tender and romantic subplot - Rocky has a serious crush on Adrienne - the woman from the pet shop...he has even brought two turtles and a goldfish just to talk to her! Adrienne is hopelessly shy and Rocky is no prince charming - yet these two muddle their way through a VERY awkward first date - yet at the same time it is heart-warming and you root for them to be together.*

*The dialogue is realistic and it is a very well written script. Sylvester Stallone wrote the screenplay for the film as well as played the lead (he also wrote, starred in AND directed Rocky II, III and IV). He may play a character that is a couple of pencils short of a full-set, but it's just a very good performance. The man is very talented...and I feel he is often underrated. He has written/co-written the screenplays for many of the films he has starred in - and his work out regime to get in shape to play this role was INSANE!!*

*Overall as an audience you cannot but help root for Rocky and the final boxing match is well choreographed and action-packed - but not too brutal to make it difficult to watch. The music in the films is also iconic - although if you have started singing 'The Eye of the Tiger' to yourself you are two films too early - that wasn't used until Rocky III.*

*This film may well be older than I am - but I certainly feel that it has stood the test of time and is an absolute classic. I think my love of the Rocky films is thanks to my dad - he loved these films, and says that Rocky II was the last film he saw at the cinema in 1979...until I dragged him to watch The Blair Witch Project on my 17th birthday.*

*Rocky I and Rocky IV are my favourites. In Rocky IV Stallone really plays around with montage and parallel editing, with training scenes being set to extended pieces of music, they almost begin to resemble a music video style of editing.*

*These films have been on ITV4 this week - with Rocky IV showing tonight (Thursday - 9pm) They may be available in the ITV player if you want to watch for yourself.*









**Film 3:**

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director \_\_\_\_\_

Date seen \_\_\_\_\_

I would give this film \_\_\_\_ / 5 stars (*colour in star rating*) because \_\_\_\_\_

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**Film 5:**

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director \_\_\_\_\_

Date seen \_\_\_\_\_

I would give this film \_\_\_\_ / 5 stars (*colour in star rating*) because \_\_\_\_\_

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