



**Subject: Film Studies A-level (Enrichment Materials)**

Know It (Knowledge)	Use It (Application)	Stretch It (Development)
<p>Research the works of a documentary filmmaker who you like, or whose work is widely recognised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What topics does this documentary maker focus on?</li> <li>• What role does the filmmaker play in the documentaries? Do they 'host' the documentaries, or are these made up of footage and interviews?</li> <li>• How have these documentaries been received by the public? Look at their media presence and the extent to which their documentaries provoke discussion.</li> </ul>	<p>Watch a full-length documentary film by your chosen documentary maker.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research what the six modes of documentary filmmaking are, and what the typical features of a documentary film are – make notes on how these are evident in this film.</li> <li>• Summarise some of the differences that you notice between cinematography and editing in a mainstream film and a documentary film.</li> </ul>	<p>Write a detailed, analytical review of the documentary, (this can be done on Letterboxd if preferred), commenting on what style of documentary this is, the cinematography and editing techniques used, how audiences would respond to this documentary, and what your personal response to this documentary was.</p>
<p>Research short films which have won Best Short or Best Animated Short at the Oscars in the past five years.</p> <p>Read a review for one of the films and consider why this film won the award – what did people like about the film?</p>	<p>Watch an Oscar winning short film and consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does narrative develop over the course of the film?</li> <li>• How do characters develop over the course of the film?</li> <li>• How is the narrative of the film effectively resolved in such a short time?</li> </ul> <p>You should apply at least one narrative theory to the film.</p>	<p>Create a detailed plan for your own short film:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What would you want to produce a film about?</li> <li>• What character types would you want to include in your film?</li> <li>• What would you want the narrative arc to look like?</li> </ul>
<p>Research the works of Guillermo del Toro.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What genre of films does del Toro typically work in?</li> <li>• Which famous characters has del Toro produced?</li> <li>• What is del Toro's background? How does he explore Spanish history and culture in his films?</li> </ul>	<p>Watch a film (or clips from a film on YouTube if not accessible) directed by Guillermo del Toro which is, ideally, in Spanish. 'The Devil's Backbone' would be a good choice for this. <b>DO NOT WATCH 'PAN'S LABYRINTH'</b>.</p> <p>If in Spanish language:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research the historical context of the film, and explore how del Toro presents life in a fascist society in Spain</li> </ul> <p>If in English language:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider the fantasy or horror elements of the film – how is this conveyed through mise-en-scene?</li> </ul>	<p>Write an essay exploring how del Toro's films present themes of childhood, loneliness and fear. You should comment on representation and performance in your chosen film.</p> <p>Alternatively, watch clips from his films on YouTube and write an essay summarising how del Toro presents these films across a range of his works.</p>