Moulin Rouge Assignment · DeMiero

Name(s)					
Period	Due Date	/	/		

Moulin Rouge

"The greatest thing you'll ever learn is just to love and be loved in return." ~ Christian

Essential Guidelines:

- clearly state the question you are addressing
- properly head your paper
- edit carefully and cite plenty of evidence
- *please* use the Google Doc provided in our Google Classroom
- be sure to properly submit your final draft via the Google Classroom
- you may print a hard copy following our class guidelines and turn it in to the class basket, but I prefer the Google Doc

Part One – Literary Connections: Pick *one* of the following questions below and answer it as thoroughly as possible in 2 ¶s or less. Please cite evidence from the film and any other applicable source. Use examples from the film and/or other related films that would provide supporting evidence.

- 1. Consider and describe the **mood** and **tone** of this film. Does the **mood** change? Is there anything unique about the **tone** of this film?
- 2. **Dramatic irony** refers to a situation in which events or facts not known to a character on screen are known to another character and/or the audience. How is **dramatic irony** used in this film? Cite and explain at least two examples.
- 3. Cite at least two strong examples of **symbolism** used in this film. What purpose did these **symbols** have and were they effective?

Part Two – Cinematic Connections: Pick *one* of the following questions below and answer it as thoroughly as possible in 2 ¶s or less. Please cite evidence from the film and any other applicable source. Use examples from the film and/or other related films that would provide supporting evidence.

- 4. Discuss a memorable scene in terms of **Camera Placement: Distance from Object.** Refer to your vocabulary handout. Why were these shots used in this scene? What did the shots mean? Do you agree with the director's shot selection?
- 5. Discuss a memorable scene in terms of **Camera Placement: Angle to Object.** Refer to your vocabulary handout. Why were these shots used in this scene? What did the shots mean? Do you agree with the director's shot selection?
- 6. There are a lot of special effects used in this film particularly the use of **computer generated graphics**. Why do you think the director used this technique so much? Was it effective?
- 7. We know that there are essentially **three types of movement** in film: 1) the viewer's eye searches and scans the screen, 2) characters or objects move in relation to the frame, and 3) the camera moves across, into or away from its own field of vision. Cite a memorable scene from this film for each of these **three types of movement**.

FILM ANALYSIS

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Part Three – Analysis: Pick one of the following questions below and answer it as thoroughly as possible in about 3 to 5 \(\)s. Depth of thought and analysis is what counts here, *not* hot air. Please cite evidence from the film and any other applicable source.

- 8. **Fairytale**. In many ways "Moulin Rouge" is an adult fairytale. Do you think that Baz Luhrmann's decision to push this film into the fairytale genre – essentially making an "over the top" movie – was a good or effective decision? Why or why not? And since most fairytales have a point to make, was was the moral of "Moulin Rouge" in your opinion?
- 9. **Playlist.** Baz Luhrmann chose to put modern (circa 2001) music in this old-style musical. In fact, he went through some 5,000 songs to find the perfect mashups and combinations that would not only fit the plot, but move it forward. Do you think his combination of old and new music was effective? Why or why not? Oh, and if you could've made other musical choices, what would you have done?
- 10. **Motif.** Motifs are recurring structures, contrasts, or literary devices that can help to develop and inform the piece's major themes. Discuss the different motifs and functions that the following objects embody during "Moulin Rouge." Part of the function of a motif might be the effect it has on us or the contribution it makes to the atmosphere of the film: A) the moon, B) theaters and/or stages.
- 11. The Look and Feel of the Film. Catherine Martin, Baz Luhrmann's wife, does all of the costuming and set designing on Luhrmann's films. Her choice of rich colors and intricately detailed costumes and sets have landed her many awards and have actually inspired several clothing lines. In there anything that particularly stood out to you with the costumes or sets? Why do you think her costumes and sets have become such a strong trademark of Baz Luhrmann's films?
- 12. **Your Choice.** Got a better question? Submit it and the best of the best will be used in future editions of this assignment. Of course, you also have to provide an essay response, too.

Note: A huge thanks goes to Elery "Ely" Evans (Class of '15) who introduced and taught the first Baz Luhrmann unit in the spring of 2015.

Notes:	
Released	2001
Director:	Baz Luhrmann
Screenplay:	Baz Luhrmann
	& Craig Pearce
Music:	Craig Armstrong
Editing:	Jill Bilcock
Production Design:	Catherine Martin

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Nicole Kidman	Satine
Ewan McGregor	Christian
John Leguizamo	Toulouse-Lautrec
Jim Broadbent	Harold Zidler
Richard Roxburgh	The Duke
Jacek Koman	The Argentinean
Kylie Minogue	The Green Fairy
Ozzy Osbourne	The Green Fairy's voice

Placido DomingoThe Moon's voice

Characters: