

“Visual texts” and written texts – for your consideration:

(From English A: Literature Course Companion, Oxford Press p. 114, 115)

1. What is the relationship between types of camera shots and narrative points of view?
2. Can a film ever successfully represent interior monologue?
3. How can a particular type of narrative voice be represented in film?
4. What happens to novel or play adaptations when aspects of the original narrative are cut or changed?
5. When do films seek to “update” more traditional narratives (I.e. Shakespeare, Dickens) and what is the effect of this on the way we “read” the text?
6. What kinds of devices does film use that replicate or change the way written texts are structured?
7. In what ways do written texts and visual texts make use of symbolism?
8. In what ways are written texts changed by the introduction of elements such as sound and music in their filmic adaptations?

Visual considerations :

Cameras – Angles, Length of shots (seconds). Sequence of shots Types of shots - Establishing, close up, pan out, Transitions – changes from camera shot to camera shot

Performers – Performers or just props? Body language – posture, poses, interactions with others/products?

Graphics Text – when, what, how long? Font choices? Logos or symbols - when, what, how long?

Color – B/W, sepia tone, color? If color, what combinations?

Environment – Direct interpretation of the novel, or a re-contextualized effort?

Blocking – How does the positioning of characters in a scene contribute to events?

Audio considerations:

Voice-overs – When, what?

Dialogue – Talk to other characters, or to the audience? Tone? Inflection? Accents?

Sound Effects What sounds are enhanced? What purpose is served by the enhancements?

Music- What musical choices? How do they help establish a tone for the visual text?