**Brainstorming for Review**

**To write an effective review, you need clear and relevant evaluation CRITERIA.** Examples of evaluation criteria:

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| **Horror** | **Action** | **Romantic Comedy** | **Drama** |
| Makeup | Special effects | Jokes | Script/writing |
| Cinematography | Stunt work | Conflict/resolution | Acting |
| Type of horror depicted (jump scares, gore, etc.) | Pace of story | Chemistry between main characters | Accuracy/believability of plot |
| Music | Relatability of “hero” | Satisfaction/happy ending | Scenery/setting/costumes |

**Refer to Chapter 7.5** <https://openstax.org/books/writing-guide/pages/7-5-writing-process-thinking-critically-about-entertainment#table-00001>

**Evaluation Criteria for *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*:**

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| **The Killer (Leatherface)** | How effective is he at scaring the audience? How does he scare the audience (backstory, appearance, weapon, etc.)? |
| **Images/Setting** | How do the filmmakers create a creepy setting? How does the setting add to the fear? |
| **The Victims** | How do they project fear (screaming, etc.)? How effective or convincing is their fear? |

**FOR YOU:**

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| **Characteristics of My Primary Source** | **Examples** |
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**Graphic Organizer for Thesis Statement:**

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| **Primary Source** | Title of work being reviewed |
| **Angle of Analysis** | Overall way you will organize your review: aspects of the source you will analyze or criteria on which you plan to focus  Example: female romantic-comedy leads. |
| **Main Argument** | The idea you’ll use to draft a working thesis; must be a debatable point about your topic.  Example: Rebecca Bunch, the female lead in Crazy Ex-Girlfriend, is flawed and not virtuous. Her shortcomings make her character more engaging than traditional romantic-comedy female leads. |
| **Thesis** | One sentence (sometimes two) that clearly states your argument/judgment.  Example: Although most romantic-comedy female leads are virtuous and have admirable character traits, *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend’s* Rebecca Bunch is flawed and sometimes unsympathetic; however, the audience still roots for her to find love. |

**FOR YOU: Graphic Organizer for Your Thesis Statement:**

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| --- | --- |
| **Primary Source** |  |
| **Angle of Analysis** |  |
| **Main Argument** |  |
| **Thesis** |  |

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**Planning the Main Points, Criteria, and Body Paragraphs**

Your **main points** should be your **topic sentences**, expressed as one sentence at the beginning of each paragraph.

Body:

1. Topic sentence: your evaluation about the first criteria (for example, excellent food)
2. Topic sentence: your evaluation about the second criteria (for example, awful service)
3. Topic sentence: your evaluation about the last criteria (for example, clean and friendly environment)

**FOR YOU: Write out your topic sentences here:**

Body:

1. Topic sentence:
2. Topic sentence:
3. Topic sentence:

**As you continue to plan your review, consider these questions:**

*Depending upon your audience, how much background or context should you provide about your topic?*

*Are they likely or unlikely to have knowledge about the topic?*

*Do you need to summarize anything about your source/place/etc.?*

*Do you need to provide historical or cultural context?*

\*It is up to you to decide how to organize your review and where to present specific evidence

**Drafting the Introduction and Conclusion: Refer to Chapter 7.5**

<https://openstax.org/books/writing-guide/pages/7-5-writing-process-thinking-critically-about-entertainment#table-00001>