During Isabelle and Caitlin’s video essay on the Edge of Tomorrow, I especially enjoyed how it followed the plot of the movie well which made it easier to understand the points they were making. I also liked how the audio was blended with the background sounds of the clips. Secondly, I liked the use of the static images similar to the La Jeté. However, I would have added more images to create a longer still sequence. With only a few images it is more distracting and takes away from the smoother flow from the video. I also would have changed some of the scenes in the very beginning to include more examples of first person listening. Last, even though I liked how the rescored scene was put together, I disagree with the fact that the landing scene should be more hi fi and more non-diegetic. I think that the chaos of the battle adds to the mood of the scene and emphasizes the difficulty of Cage’s battle.

For Emma and Sebastian’s video I really liked the silence they used in the pool scene to emphasize important parts of the dialogue. Similarly, I enjoyed how they modified their rescored scene to include no dialogue and instead put a focus on John and his heartbeat heard from underneath the water in the tub. Also, I liked how the focus was again put on John during the pool scene and we can hear his voice even though he is in a large crowd. Additionally, I thought it was interesting how they pointed out that the water we are hearing in the background could actually be the result of John hearing his returning trauma, and it is completely in his head. The one thing I would have changed would be not using the pool scene over and over again. I would have liked to have seen a different section of the same scene alternated with the other one to provide more variation.

At the start of Michelle and Elizabeth’s video on Elysium, I really liked how they used opening shots of Earth and Elysium to set up the plot of the movie. Having never seen this movie before, it was easy to see what they were trying to explain. I would have changed this video essay by strengthening the voice over in some places because the elements of the soundscape occasionally make it hard to understand what is being said. Second, I really enjoyed the comparison to 2001 were there are very similar scenes, and I liked how they related that to what it meant for the movie Elysium. Third, I really enjoyed the sharp contrast between the orchestral sounds of Elysium and the lo-fi screaming and chaos of Earth. It made it their point about the drastic differences between the two places very clear. Similar to the soundscapes, I liked the contrast between the Ai voices of Elysium and the harshness of the technology on Earth. However, I would have liked to see more examples of the Earth soundscape.

For Katie and Ted’s video, I loved how they used the absence of sound to convey confusion and add suspense for the listener, which is similar to how it was done in the movie. I also liked the use of the music from the movie that was used to convey lightheartedness. Cage’s deaths have a similar light feeling to the narration because they both use the same common elements. Additionally, I liked how they used gunshots to punctuate the change in scene which was similar to some scenes in my groups’ video. I also liked the connection the group made between the music played behind Cage and his progressing capability in battle. As Cage becomes more skilled, he doesn’t need as much musical support as well as physical support. The one thing I would have changed would be to make the rescored scene include a few more lighthearted musical elements. The new soundscape is very dramatic and serious, while the video still shows some funny clips that detract from the serious mood they are trying to create.

Austin and Owen’s video had many good connections between the meaning of life and the soundscape that supports this. I really like the connection they made between breathing and the value of the characters. The ones who don’t breathe are alien have a different soundscape to accompany them. There was a good example of this in the fight scenes where the aliens use brute force and the humans use high tech weapons. I also liked their link to causal listening and how the sound tells the listener how to feel. There are many good examples where the soundscape tells the listener to feel suspense, but I would have liked to see some contrasting scenes where the listener is told to feel happy or more secure. This would be a good contrast to the main mood of the movie which would further provide evidence for their argument.