

Romeo and Juliet: 7th Grade Visual Literacy Unit Frame Analysis

Study the frame carefully. How does the filmmaker use visual devices to convey meaning in this frame?

In the boxes below, use bullet points to detail the film maker's use of four visual devices. SEE RUBRIC

You will then use this information to write a paragraph explaining how the filmmaker has used the devices to convey theme, mood, and/or conflict.

Through Another Lens: 7th Grade Visual Literacy Unit

<p>Device 1: Composition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frame arranged so that it is almost symmetrical. <p>Effect: This reinforces the theme, which is the feud between the houses. The symmetry represents the equal power possessed by both the Montagues and the Capulets, both strong enough to end Romeo and Juliet's relationship instantly.</p>	<p>Device 2: Symbolism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Door in the middle, between Tybalt and Benvolio. • Large difference in the attire of two houses. <p>Effect: This once again reinforces the theme, once again the separation of the two houses. The door in the middle of the frame, between Capulet and Montague, symbolizes the "barrier" and "border" that separates the two houses. Also, the stark contrast between Tybalt and Benvolio's clothing make the two families seem even further unlike.</p>
<p>Device 3: Lighting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Fuzzy" light (the shadows cast have unclear outlines). • Faces of Capulet and Montague dark in comparison to remainder of room. • Little light. <p>Effect: The lighting emphasizes the mood, as it creates a dark and serious one in this frame. Capulet's face is shrouded in darkness to provide further emphasis on the seriousness of this scene. Also, the fuzzy outlines evoke a feeling of doubt and uncertainty, which can be used to describe Romeo and Juliet's relationship should their houses intervene.</p>	<p>Device 4: Rule of Thirds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montagues on one third of frame, with Capulets on the opposite third. • Door takes up the middle third. <p>Effect: The Rule of Thirds emphasizes the theme, which is the separation of the houses. The door in the middle third acts as a divider. Also, the Rule of Thirds demonstrates once again the equal power possessed by the families, with an equal amount of people from that family in the same position on their third of the frame. This once again emphasizes the fact that the relationship between Romeo and Juliet could be easily terminated by one side should they find out, since both families are equally powerful.</p>



Write a paragraph to explain how the filmmaker has used the devices above to convey theme, mood, and/or conflict.

Baz Luhrmann, the director of the film "Romeo and Juliet" utilized visual devices composition, symbolism, lighting, and the Rule of Thirds in this frame to reinforce both the theme and the mood. The composition of this frame emphasizes the theme, which is the current feud between the two houses. The frame is composed of two nearly identical halves, representing the equal power possessed by both the Montagues and the Capulets, strong enough to end Romeo and Juliet's relationship instantly. Symbolism was also present in this frame, with the door in the middle emphasizing the theme of the separation between the two households. Also, the stark contrast between Tybalt and Benvolio's clothing symbolize the difference of the two households. While these emphasized the theme, the lighting in this frame emphasized the mood. It set a dark and serious one, with Capulet's face shrouded in darkness. Also, the shadows possessed fuzzy outlines, evoking a feeling of doubt and uncertainty. These words can be used to describe Romeo and Juliet's relationship should their houses intervene. Finally, the Rule of Thirds applied to this frame emphasizes the theme once again. The door in the middle third acts like a divider, representing the "barrier" between the two households. Also, the Montagues are depicted on one third of the frame with two members from the family, with the Capulets taking their opposite third also with two members from their family. This demonstrates once again that both households can easily terminate Romeo and Juliet's relationship should they find out due to their equally immense power. The use of different types of visual devices enforce both the theme and mood of "Romeo and Juliet."

Shot Analysis Rubric

VISUAL LITERACY STANDAR D	Getting Started	Approaching Standard	Meeting Standard <i>(MC)</i>	Exceeding Standard
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shows a lack of understanding of visual media devices and elements Has difficulty inferring and tends to interpret literally Struggles to connect with the visual media Produces overly short responses which lack information Uses insufficient evidence to support response 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understands some visual media devices and elements Sometimes identifies theme, purpose and style Infers inconsistently Connects on a superficial level with the visual media Generates responses to synthesize information Sometimes supports responses using evidence from the visual media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understands visual media devices and elements, including lighting, tone, color, POV, camera angle, foreground/background, composition and symbolism Discusses theme, purpose and style Infers for deeper meaning Evaluates, interprets and analyses visual media critically Supports responses using evidence 	<p>Understanding exceeds grade level expectation. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyses visual media more deeply or with greater sophistication, and creativity

6 Traits Writing Checklist

	GS	AS	MS	ES
IDEAS			✓✓	
ORGANIZATION			✓✓	
VOICE			✓✓	
WORD CHOICE			✓✓	
SENTENCE FLUENCY			✓✓	
CONVENTIONS			✓✓	