 AS **FRENCH** Paper 2 Writing

**Mathieu Kassovitz : La Haine possible titles essays**

**[35 marks]**

**June 2019**

Examinez ce qui motive le comportement et les actions de Vinz, Saïd et Hubert dans ce film. Selon vous, quelle est la motivation la plus importante ?

Vous pouvez utiliser les points suivants :

 les motivations de Vinz

 les motivations de Saïd

 les motivations de Hubert

 la motivation la plus importante.

**Possible content**

 Vinz

Wants to prove himself as a *caïd* so constantly acts like a ‘tough guy’.

Has an inherently aggressive personality and thrives on conflict and argument.

Wants revenge for the *bavure policière* which has led to Abdel being in a coma.

 Saïd

Is naïve and immature – so constantly making jokes, a follower and yet often made fun of by the other two.

Has a sense of family duty - protective of his sister/reprimands her when he sees her skipping school.

Involved in petty criminality – ‘debt collecting’ provides the motivation for the visit to Astérix in central Paris.

 Hubert

A realist – trying to find ways to get out of the banlieue – explains to others that *la haine attire la haine.*

More mature personality than Vinz and Saïd with a leadership role in the trio – fed up with the constant bickering between Vinz and Saïd.

 The most important motivation

Which of the motivations is the most important.

Could be a combination of factors.

Any plausible and well justified response to this part of the question is acceptable.

Examinez le rôle des personnages secondaires dans ce film.

Vous pouvez utiliser les points suivants :

 le rôle des membres de la famille

 le rôle des membres de la police

 le rôle d’Astérix et Darty

 le rôle des autres personnages secondaires.

**Possible content**

 The role of family members

Their contribution to the plot.

Their relationship with main characters.

How do the family members contribute to our understanding of the background of the three protagonists? - absence of male role models; family members give insight into lifestyle.

 The role of members of the police force

Their contribution to the plot.

Their relationship with main characters.

Differences in the ways the police are portrayed.

 The role of Astérix and Darty

Their contribution to the plot - Astérix and the issue of the money owed to Saïd creates the reason for the visit to the centre of Paris by Vinz, Hubert and Saïd.

The contrast in their life-styles.

Their interaction with the main characters.

 Other secondary characters

Do they represent certain themes? – quality of life in the banlieue; Darty’s conflict with police.

Their contribution to the plot.

Their interaction with the main characters – they highlight the social awkwardness of Vinz and Saïd.

**June 2018**

Examinez la représentation de la banlieue et du centre de Paris dans ce film.

Vous pouvez utiliser les points suivants :

 la vie quotidienne et les conditions de vie dans la banlieue

 le comportement et les actions des protagonistes et de la police dans la banlieue

 la vie et les conditions de vie dans le centre de Paris

 le comportement des protagonistes et de la police dans le centre de Paris.

**Possible content**

 Everyday life and living conditions in the suburbs

Monotony of life, lack of opportunity, ethnic/racial mix, tensions, lack of father figures, antagonism towards authority, truancy from school, evidence of drug culture (including hard drugs), strained family relationships, crime - fencing stolen goods etc.

Physical surroundings: empty spaces, urban decay, mindless destruction (aftermath of the riot – destruction of the gym), vandalism etc.

 The behaviour and actions of the main characters and the police in the suburbs

Police: attitudes towards ‘banlieusards’, behaviour, mediation, antagonism etc.

 Life and living conditions in the centre of Paris

Life in the centre of Paris is vibrant and the capital is a lively city.

Evidence of leisure facilities: nightclub, gallery, boxing-ring.

Attitude of police officers in the street.

Crime: drug dealing, car theft, armed attacks.

 The behaviour of the main characters and the police in the centre of Paris

Disregard for life (Russian roulette chez Astérix).

Racial abuse by the police (esp. of Saïd and Hubert).

Conflict (Saïd, Vinz and Hubert v. skinheads).

Examinez comment Kassovitz évoque la sympathie du spectateur pour les trois protagonistes.

Vous pouvez utiliser les points suivants :

 la situation des trois protagonistes au début du film

 les difficultés auxquelles ils doivent faire face

 les actions policières envers les trois protagonistes

 le dénouement du film.

**June 2017**

Examinez la représentation de la police dans ce film.

Vous pouvez utiliser les points suivants :

* le comportement général de la police dans le film
* le comportement et les actions de Samir
* le comportement de la police envers Hubert et Saïd
* le comportement et les actions de ‘Notre Dame’.

**Possible content**

Images of the police in the initial montage.

The police outside the commissariat as the film begins.

Samir – helps Vinz, Saïd and Hubert (especially at the hospital).

Police charge and fight.

Politeness of the policeman in Paris who uses ‘vous’ when addressing Saïd.

Brutality of the policemen who abuse Saïd and Hubert.

Reaction of young officer who witnesses the abuse.

Notre Dame – actions and attitude on rooftop with Saïd’s brother/actions and attitude at end of film.

Examinez jusqu’à quel point les trois personnages principaux sont des personnages réalistes ou des stéréotypes.Vous pouvez utiliser les points suivants :

* leurs tempéraments personnels
* leurs caractéristiques
* leur comportement et leurs actions dans le film
* leurs rôles individuels dans le film.

**Possible content**

Description and analysis of the three main characters:

Physical description.

Attitudes.

Behaviour.

Their outlook on life.

Their situation.

Their different roles in the riots the previous night.

Different reactions to Abdel’s situation.

Home life/circumstances.

Actions in the film.

Individuals or representatives of a ‘type’ or perhaps elements of both

**Specimen questions :**

Examinez les actions et les événements dans le film et comment ils reflètent l’affirmation que la haine attire la haine.

Vous pouvez utiliser les points suivants :

• la vie en banlieue

• les émeutes

• la bavure policière

• le tempérament des protagonistes.

**Possible content:**

• life in the *banlieue* - a fractured society on the verge of collapse

• lack of opportunity – boredom – restlessness

• riots – injustice – inequality

• police brutality - racism

• need for revenge

• the anger and frustration of Vinz

• the naivety of Saïd

• the sense of hopelessness in the face of reality of Hubert

Examinez les personnages de Vinz, Saïd et Hubert et comment ils inspirent de la sympathie chez les spectateurs.

Vous pouvez utiliser les points suivants :

• comment ils sont physiquement

• comment sont leurs tempéraments

• la motivation derrière leurs actions

• une scène importante qui inspire de la sympathie pour eux.

**Possible content :**

• description of the physical appearance of the three main characters

• similarities and differences

• personality and temperament of the three main characters

• motivation: aggression, tension, revenge

• tension and friction between them

• reaction to the fate of Abdel and to police brutality

• extreme views of the protagonists (particularly Vinz)

• a scene which elicits the sympathy of the audience – selected by the student

Examinez les similarités et les différences entre Saïd, Vinz et Hubert dans *La Haine*.

Vous pouvez utiliser les points suivants :

* comment ils sont physiquement
* comment sont leurs tempéraments
* leurs actions au cours du film et leur motivation
* une scène qui illustre bien leurs caractères.

**Possible content**:

Physical appearance

Hubert – tallest of three, physically very strong, very fit, dark-skinned.

Vinz – very short hair, looks menacing and aggressive.

Saïd – smallest of the three, always looking more cheerful.

Can be dealt with as separate descriptions or similarities and differences can be drawn out more.

Personality/temperament

Despite their friendship, there is much tension and friction between them.

Vinz’s aggression and anger contrast with Hubert’s calmer nature.

Vinz’s extreme views and behaviour contrast with Hubert’s more reasonable manner.

Saïd is the least clearly defined of the three.

Maybe reference to caricatures rather than characters – Arabe, Juif, Noir.

Actions and motivation

Riots and fate of friend Abdel will feature within motivation.

Tensions between them and police; between them and others more generally.

Aggression and hostility never far below the surface.

Actions almost inevitably always lead to conflict.

The scenes where there is little or no action and how this reflects life in the suburbs.

A significant scene

For individuals to choose and justify – possible examples:

The scene at the barbecue on the roof.

The interrogation scene and Vinz’s absence from this.

The hospital scene.

The scene at the gallery.

The visit to the more affluent part of Paris.

The closing scene.

Analysez l’importance des épisodes et les évènements les plus importants de l’histoire. Utilisez les points suivants:

* les épisodes les plus importants et leur impact
* l’attitude des personnages envers ces évènements
* le lien entre les épisodes les plus importants et le titre du film
* comment ils font avancer l’histoire

« La Haine est sans doute un film pessimiste et anti-autoritaire » Dans quelle mesure êtes-vous d’accord avec ce jugement ?

**Possible content**

*Note : Candidates are free to agree or disagree with the statement (although will likely agree since there is little to support an optimistic view)*

Bleak scenario

Life in the *banlieues*

Police *bavure* and brutality and racism

Hooligan behaviour of the protagonists

*La haine attire la haine* – vicious circle

No escape from *banlieue*, no opportunities

Ending of the film

A judgement on the extent to which the candidate (dis)agrees with the statement

**OTHER POSSIBLE QUESTIONS :**

Faites le portrait du personnage principal et analysez son rôle dans le film. Utilisez les points suivants:

* comment il est physiquement
* son attitude envers la vie et les autres personnages
* son mode de vie
* ce qu’il fait de plus important dans le film

À quel point le film est-il lié à un endroit particulier? Utilisez les points suivants:

* les choix du lieu principal du film
* les épisodes et les évènements les plus importants du film
* ce que représente cet endroit pour le personnage principal du film
* le lien entre le lieu principal du film et le titre du film

Analysez les portraits des protagonistes. Considérez les points suivants:

* comment ils sont physiquement
* quels sont leurs caractères
* les similarités entre les trois protagonistes
* les différences entre les protagonistes

Analysez les techniques du film ‘La Haine’ et leur importance pour le message du film. Utilisez les points suivants:

* l’importance de l’utilisation du noir et blanc
* le choix de la bande sonore et le message
* l’horloge incessante, tout le long du film
* le jeu de la caméra

Analysez le rapport entre les jeunes des banlieues et la police. Utilisez les points suivants:

* ce qui cause des tensions entre les autorités et les banlieusards
* une scène où la tension entre les deux est évidente
* l’image négative de la police
* l’évolution de la situation entre les jeunes et la police

Décrivez un personnage secondaire de l’œuvre et évaluez leur rôle dans l’œuvre. Utilisez les points suivants:

* une description de sa personnalité
* une scène clé pour ce personnage secondaire
* sa relation avec le personnage principal
* son importance dans l’œuvre

 AL **FRENCH** Paper 2 Writing

**Mathieu Kassovitz : La Haine possible titles essays**

**[40 marks]**

**November 2021**

Analysez comment Kassovitz présente la mort de Vinz comme le dénouement inévitable du film.

**Possible content**

• Vinz’s personality is negative, violent and aggressive.

• Vinz’s outlook on life is pessimistic and extreme.

• Vinz has no ambition other than to serve a prison sentence.

• Vinz has a personal agenda for revenge allied to a pathological hatred of the police

« Si Abdel meurt je vais tuer un keuf ».

• He has an inability to be civil even towards his friends.

• He is obsessed with the gun that he has found and now carries it with him everywhere.

• His aggression in front of the mirror at the beginning of the film foreshadows the tragic finale.

• Vinz’s behaviour and attitude towards the Russian roulette game with Astérix highlights his recklessness and volatility.

• The leitmotiv of « Jusqu’ici tout va bien » suggests that ultimately something will go wrong.

• Vinz’s life is lived within a vicious circle where « la haine attire la haine. »

• The key line of Hubert’s ‘joke’ is « L’importance c’est pas la chute, c’est l’atterrissage. »

• Vinz has no guidance – there are no good role models for him to follow.

« La Haine est un film anti-autoritaire et non pas un film anti-flic. » Dans quelle mesure êtes-vous d’accord avec ce jugement ?

**Possible content**

• The representation of the police throughout the film is generally negative.

• The catalyst driving the storyline of the film is a « bavure policière. »

• Notre-Dame despises the banlieusards – he is responsible for the death of Vinz.

• The scene during the garde-à-vue portrays police violence, aggression and racism.

• The police are often needlessly confrontational (the scene on the rooftop with Saïd’s brother).

• The riot scenes which open the film show armed police and unarmed rioters.

• The police are aggressive in stance and demeanour (the police line up outside the police station).

• The police are seen as murderers « N’oublie pas que la police tue. »

• The police are seen as perpetrators of injustice « Que justice soit faite pour Makomé. »

BUT:

• Not all conflict in the film is directed by or generated by the police (cf. social clash at the art gallery and the fight with the skinheads).

• Samir is seen as a good cop – tries to ease relationships in the banlieue.

• The police in the Paris streets are polite and helpful.

**June 2020**

Dans quelle mesure est-ce que l’assertion « jusqu’ici tout va bien » est une phrase appropriée en considérant le déroulement du scénario de La Haine ?

Possible content

• Suggests a sense of the inevitable… « l’importance c’est pas la chute, c’est l’atterrissage ».

• For much of the film nothing much actually happens.

• We see several scenes of inactivity and boredom in the empty spaces of the city.

• Confrontations – until the final confrontation – are resolved without tragedy (the eviction from the rooftops and the eviction from the art gallery).

• Suggests a sense of waiting for something to happen while Abdel lingers in a coma.

• Threats are based on what might eventually happen: « Si Abdel meurt je vais tuer un keuf ».

• Tension constantly builds and is then dissipated.

• The three protagonists seem to wander aimlessly about the banlieue.

• Vinz eventually gives the gun to Hubert – suggesting tragedy has been averted.

• Vinz proves incapable of following through on his violent threats. (He cannot bring himself to kill the skinhead).

• Hubert continually manages to placate Vinz and therefore keeps potential violence

under control.

« Kassovitz présente une tragédie moderne des banlieues contemporaines. » Dans quelle mesure êtes-vous d’accord avec ce jugement de La Haine ?

Possible content

• The protagonists of the film are fatally flawed heroes typical of classic tragedy.

• The ending of the film is tragic in the extreme.

• Throughout the film circumstances conspire against the protagonists in an

increasingly more vicious circle.

• The downward spiral culminates in the death of Vinz – and possibly also of Hubert.

• There is a lack of hope that things will improve.

• There is a sense of inevitable and impending doom « Jusqu’ici tout va bien ».

• Characters are motivated by aggression and violence.

• Vinz’s actions are fuelled by hatred of the police and a perceived need for revenge.

• The emptiness of the milieu in which the characters live echoes the tragic emptiness

of their lives.

• There seems to be no way out of the situation for any of the characters – they are

trapped without choice or opportunity.

• The setting of the film is primarily within the contemporary banlieue.

• Despite being filmed more than 20 years ago the film retains a relevance to

contemporary life.

**June 2019**

Analysez dans quelle mesure la phrase « la haine attire la haine » résume tout ce qui se passe dans ce film. BM5

**Possible content**

 Pertinence of the title of the film itself.

 Hatred leads to unrest and protest which descend into hatred in the form of violent outburst and violent response.

 Initial montage of conflict between *banlieusards* and police – results in the *bavure policière* which puts Abdel in a coma.

 Abdel’s hospitalisation is the catalyst for the subsequent behaviour and action of the three main protagonists.

 Hubert verbalises to Vinz and Saïd the vicious circle in which they find themselves with the actual quotation *la haine attire la haine.*

 Hatred in the form of mindless violence.

 The ugliness of such strong feelings as hate inherent in the three main protagonists provokes conflict at almost every turn – even between each other.

 Hatred leads to hatred in the form of prejudice.

 Hate leads to hatred and conflict between groups simply because they are different.

 Hatred leads to hatred in the form of revenge.

 Hatred leads to further hatred in the form of vicious and violent racism.

 Notre Dame’s hatred leads to the fatal final scene.

Analysez les techniques que Kassovitz utilise dans sa représentation des scènes en banlieue et dans Paris.

**Possible content**

Scenes in suburbs

 Empty spaces and empty scenes emphasise boredom and hopelessness of a life without purpose.

 Bleak and cold exteriors for the most part juxtaposed with cramped interiors.

 Graffiti, burned out cars, vandalised buildings and stairwells.

 Realistic dialogue; use of *verlan*; semi-improvised and unscripted scenes; sense of authenticity; crude language.

 Use of black and white intensifies sense of drama and/or creates a sense of realism with documentary feel.

 Use of music; Burnin’ and Lootin’ – emphasises conflict/violence/youth protest; *Nique la police* – reinforces theme of conflict against authority.

 *Travellings* used to keep viewer part of the action; ‘*plans séquences*’.

 *Tic-tac horloger* heightens the sense of impending doom *une bombe à retardement.*

 Sound in stereo in the *banlieue* – captures atmosphere of the *banlieue* where the protagonists are fully integrated with their surroundings.

Scenes in Paris:

 Direct contrast with scenes in suburbs – full of life and activity and traffic noise.

 Most scenes in Paris are night scenes – darkness and obscurity amplify the gravity of the drama of the situation.

 Luxury of surroundings – Asterix’s apartment – art gallery: protagonists are totally out of place.

 Sound in mono in Paris – which enhances a sense of disconnect between characters and surroundings.

**June 2018**

|  |
| --- |
| Analysez la représentation de la banlieue et des banlieusards dans ce film et combien cette représentation est réaliste.  |
| **Possible content** Monotony of life, lack of opportunity. Ethnic/racial mix, tensions. Attitudes and relationships between banlieusards. Lack of father figures, antagonism towards authority (and the police). Evidence of drug culture (including hard drugs). Strained family relationships (Hubert’s brother in prison). Crime - fencing stolen goods etc. Physical surroundings: empty spaces, urban decay. Mindless destruction (aftermath of the riot – destruction of the gym), vandalism etc. Police: attitudes towards ‘banlieusards’, behaviour, mediation, antagonism etc. Evaluation and justification of whether this representation is realistic/true to life/believable. Candidates are free to criticise the representation as stereotypical, exaggerated for dramatic effect (as long as the points they make are justified with appropriate evidence).  |

**Analysez** les moyens par lesquels Kassovitz présente le thème du conflit dans le film. Comment jugez-vous son traitement de ce thème ?

**Possible content**

(Candidates are free to criticise the representation as stereotypical, exaggerated for dramatic effect (as long as the points they make are justified with appropriate evidence).

Racial tensions in the banlieue.

Conflict with authority (esp. police).

Riots and violence.

Vandalism and aggression.

Social conflict (clash between life in banlieue and in Paris itself cf. scene at art gallery).

Conflict between youth groups (Said, Vinz and Hubert v. skinheads).

Revenge killing(s).

Mexican stand-off.

Mindless/pointless violence (destruction of Hubert’s gym).

Constant conflict and argument even between friends.

Evaluation of the representation of conflict. Is it realistic/believable/true to life.

**Specimen Paper**

« Pour beaucoup de critiques, *La Haine* est un chef d’oeuvre du cinéma. » Dans quelle mesure êtes-vous d’accord avec ce jugement ?

**Possible content**

Candidates will probably agree with this: the challenge for them is to give evidence to prove their case.

Thematically:

 Kassowitz tackles a difficult and controversial subject head-on.

 Rawness of presentation and a ‘no holds barred’ approach.

 Images of violence, hatred, racial tension, racism are stark and bold.

 The film thus has a great impact thematically.

 The ‘wake-up’ call aspect of the film.

 Public reaction to the film including politicians’ reaction.

 The global impact cinematographically-speaking of the film.

Technically/stylistically:

 Characterisation – strongly drawn and portrayed protagonists especially Vinz and Hubert.

 Filming in black and white.

 The documentary style and the use of real-life footage of the riots.

 The use of the clock and the effectiveness of this.

 The tension and suspense.

 The final scene and the circular structure of the film.

Specimen Paper

B7 « Les trois jeunes protagonistes de *La Haine* ne sont que des stéréotypes généraux et le scénario est peu probable. » Dans quelle mesure êtes-vous d’accord avec ce jugement ?

**Possible content**

Candidates will give character portrayals of the three protagonists in some detail.

Vinz and his aggression, violence, thirst for revenge.

Hubert and his desire to get out of the suburbs.

Saïd and his survival in the suburbs.

Some will argue the characters are well-drawn others may say they are well-defined but they remain representations; ethnicity will be mentioned.

Probability of screenplay: most will argue against this putting the film in its real historical context. These events actually happened in Paris.

Kassowitz is dealing with a real problem.

Some may argue that the sustained level of conflict, tension, violence is exaggerated, unrealistic, that this is done for dramatic effect; suspense and tension.

Specimen Paper

Analysez la représentation de la vie en banlieue dans ce film. Dans quelle mesure est-ce que c’est une représentation justifiée ?

**Possible content**

Physical surroundings – dilapidated tower blocks and buildings

Family life – overcrowded rooms

Ethnic mix

Social life – gathering on roof as nowhere to go

Truancy from school – lack of education

Boredom – sitting around doing nothing

Fractured society resulting in rioting

A judgement on the extent to which the candidate thinks the representation is justified

Specimen Paper

 « La Haine est sans doute un film pessimiste et anti-autoritaire » Dans quelle mesure êtes-vous d’accord avec ce jugement ?

**Possible content**  *Note : Candidates are free to agree or disagree with the statement (although will likely agree since there is little to support an optimistic view)*

Bleak scenario

Life in the *banlieues*

Police *bavure* and brutality and racism

Hooligan behaviour of the protagonists

*La haine attire la haine* – vicious circle

No escape from *banlieue*, no opportunities

Ending of the film

A judgement on the extent to which the candidate (dis)agrees with the statement

« Le titre du film *La Haine* est bien choisi car il reflète exactement le thème principal du film.» Dans quelle mesure êtes-vous d’accord avec ce jugement ?

Vous pouvez utiliser les points suivants :

 une explication du thème principal du film

 le lien entre ce thème et le titre du film

 une scène qui exemplifie le thème principal

 le tempérament des personnages principaux du film et leur lien avec le titre.

**Possible content**:

 Main theme of film

May be explicitly stated as *la haine* but some discussion required about the interpretation of this.

Whether the three protagonists are victims of hatred or perpetrators or both and this needs explaining.

Inspiration behind the film and Kassowitz’s motives in making the film.

Hubert: *la haine attire la haine* and the significance of this.

Themes other than *la haine* – friendship, solidarity, racism, discrimination, inequality, social deprivation.

 Links with the title

The response here will be determined by the response to the first bullet point.

A judgement as to the appropriateness or otherwise of the title.

An assessment of how well it reflects the main theme of the film but also how it falls short of so doing.

 A significant scene

For individuals to choose and justify – possible examples:

The interrogation scene and Vinz’s absence from this.

The scenes with Vinz and the gun.

The scene with Hubert – *la haine attire la haine.*

The closing scene.

The main characters’ temperaments and the link with the title

In different degrees according to characters – aggression, violence, hatred, defiance, frustration.

Optimism versus resignation.

Drug abuse and links with temperament and character.

What does and what does not match the title of the film.

**Décrivez un thème important traité dans la Haine. Ce thème est-il intéressant pour le spectateur moderne ?**

**Analysez les principaux thèmes dans La Haine. Comment avez-vous réagi à ces thèmes**

Dans La Haine, M K a réussi à dépeindre l’exclusion sociale. Etes-vous d’accord ?

Examinez les personnages principaux dans La Haine et comment ils attirent de la sympathie

Comment K représente-t il la famille dans La Haine ?

La Haine attire la Haine. Expliquez et analysez le traitement de ces mots d’Hubert dans le film

Pensez-vous que le film La Haine devrait être étudié par les générations futures ? Expliquez votre réponse.

La Haine est un anti-flic. Donnez vos opinions et justifiez vos réponses

Analysez les principales techniques utilisées par M K dans la Haine. Que pensez-vous de ces techniques

Analysez le succes du tournage e noir et blanc dans LH

Analysez les raisons du succès de LH. A votre avis quel est le facture le plus important pour l’expliquer ?

Analysez comment le metteur en scène cherche à provoquer des émotions fortes chez son public.

La Haine est sans doute un film pessimiste et antiautoritaire. Dans quelle mesure êtes-vous d’accord avec ce jugement ?

« Le titre du film *La Haine* est bien choisi car il reflète exactement le thème principal du film.» Dans quelle mesure êtes-vous d’accord avec ce jugement ?

Vous pouvez utiliser les points suivants :

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 le lien entre ce thème et le titre du film

 une scène qui exemplifie le thème principal

 le tempérament des personnages principaux du film et leur lien avec le titre.

**Possible content**:

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May be explicitly stated as *la haine* but some discussion required about the interpretation of this.

Whether the three protagonists are victims of hatred or perpetrators or both and this needs explaining.

Inspiration behind the film and Kassowitz’s motives in making the film.

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Drug abuse and links with temperament and character.

What does and what does not match the title of the film.