

## **DISCUSSION LEADER'S GUIDE: FILM TALK! LEAD WITH QUESTIONS**

**TO THE LEADER:** One of the most important tools of film analysis is “the question framework” answering all the question words as they relate to film. In leading the discussion, you may want to write the question words on a whiteboard, checking them off after they've been answered. Some questions ask for recall of the film. In answering questions like, “Why?” or “What do you think?,” higher order thinking is engaged.

### **INTRODUCE THE ACTIVITY TO THE AUDIENCE:**

“One of the best ways to talk about a film is to answer all the Question Words. Name all the question words you know. Let's use these questions to talk about the film/s.”

### **WHO is in the film? WHO ARE THE CHARACTERS in the film?**

#### **WHAT KIND OF film is this?**

- Is this film in the LIVE-ACTION STYLE, or is it in the CARTOON/ ANIMATION style?
- Do you think the events in this film really happened (DOCUMENTARY), or
- Do you think this is a made-up (FICTION) story?
- Is this the kind of film that is about a PROBLEM/ CONFLICT, or is this a film about how film techniques can be used to create art?

#### **WHERE do the events of the film take place?**

- Tell me about the SETTING:  
—In what country? In a city or the countryside?

#### **WHEN do the events of the film take place?**

- In the present time, in a past time, in a future time? In what season of the year?

#### **WHAT is the PROBLEM/ CONFLICT in the film?**

#### **WHAT HAPPENS in the film? Summarize/ shorten your ideas to explain:**

- WHAT HAPPENS in the beginning of the film?
- WHAT HAPPENS in the middle of the film?
- WHAT HAPPENS at the end of the film?

#### **If you had to pick one MAIN IDEA for this film, WHAT would it be?**

#### **WHY do you think the filmmaker made this film?**

- What ideas were they trying to SHOW?
- Do you think the filmmakers had a MESSAGE or LESSON or THEME?

#### **HOW did the filmmaker show their ideas?**

- HOW did they use VISUAL PICTURES?
- HOW did they use SOUND to tell the story: music, sound effects, dialogue?
- Film Review! What do you think?

**FILM REVIEW! WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

**What's that Word? Review** – a verb, an action word, that means, "to look again"

Name of the Film: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Choose a number from 1 (the best) to 4 (the worst) to describe the way you think and feel about these parts of the film:**

\_\_\_\_ A. THE CHARACTERS WHO WERE IN THE FILM.

\_\_\_\_ B. WHAT HAPPENED IN THE FILM.

\_\_\_\_ C. THE PROBLEM OR CONFLICT IN THE FILM.

\_\_\_\_ D. HOW THE FILM MOVED FROM THE BEGINNING, TO THE MIDDLE, TO THE END.

\_\_\_\_ E. WHERE AND WHEN THE FILE TOOK PLACE.

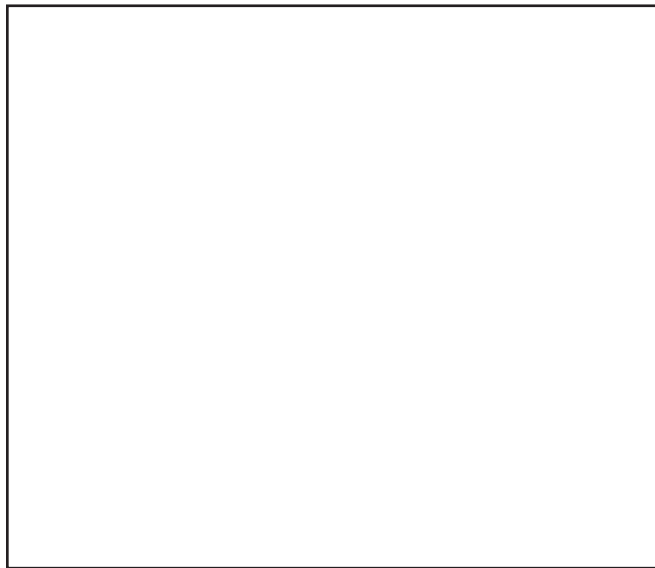
**Why do you think the filmmakers made this film?**

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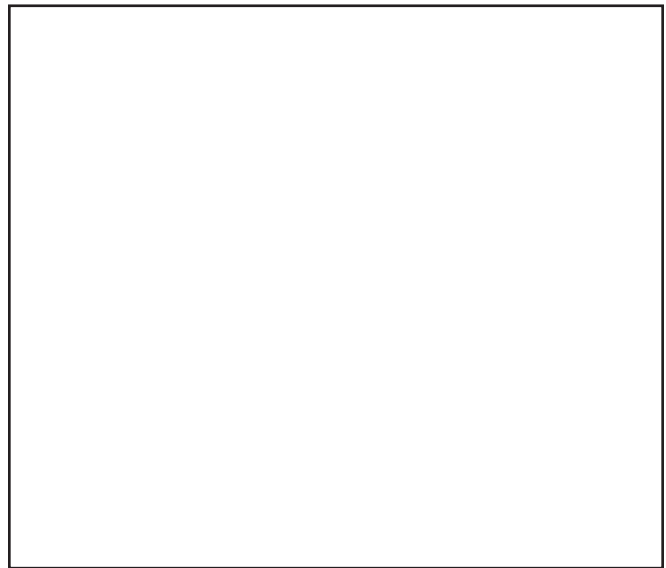
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**Draw a shot, a picture, you remember**



**Draw your own film idea:**



**STORYBOARD REPRODUCIBLE / 1 PER PAGE**

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Film Title \_\_\_\_\_



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**STORYBOARD REPRODUCIBLE / 2 PER PAGE**

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Film Title \_\_\_\_\_



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**STORYBOARD REPRODUCIBLE / 3 PER PAGE**

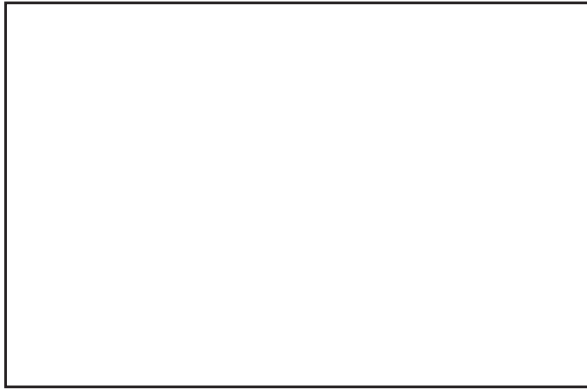
Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Film Title \_\_\_\_\_

**Draw pictures**

**Write words to explain the pictures**

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1.

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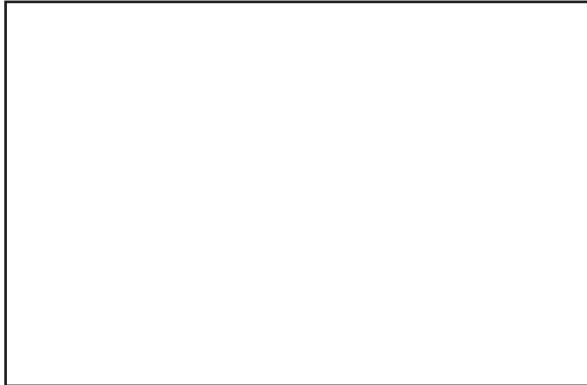
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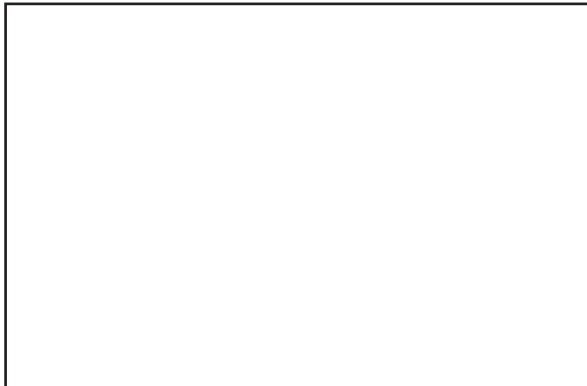
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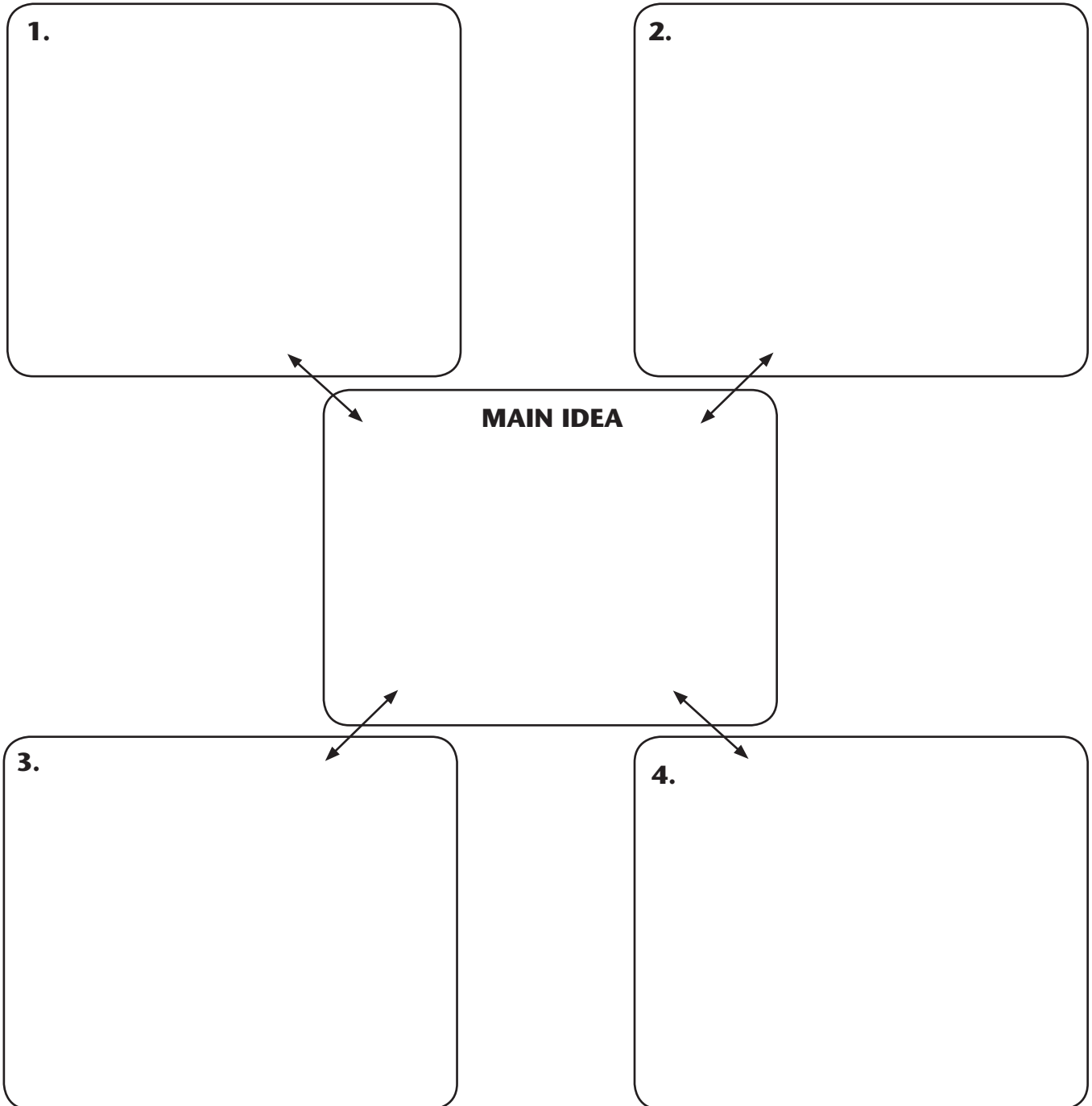
# FILM IDEA WEB

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Film Title \_\_\_\_\_

**Write (or Draw) a Web of Ideas about this Main Idea:** \_\_\_\_\_

Put the Main Idea in the Middle. Explain 4 parts of the main idea by writing or drawing in the boxes around it.



## FILM COMPARISON MAP

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Film Title \_\_\_\_\_

In the first box, write or draw the thing we are comparing	In the second box, write or draw how it was shown in the film	In the third box, write or draw how it looks in your own life

## VOCABULARY FOR FILM

**Actor** – a performer, a person who acts out imaginary events

**Characters** – the imaginary beings shown in a story

**Conflict** – the problem in the story

**Dialogue** – the words in a film

**Director** – the person who decides how the film is made

**Editor** – the person who puts together all the shots to finish the movie

**Frame** – the smallest part of a film that show just one picture

**Lights! Camera! Action!** – Turn on the lights; turn on the camera, and start acting!

**Motivation** – the reasons why a person does something

**Panel** – one drawing on a storyboard

**Plot** – the plan of actions in a story

**Props** – the things and objects used in a film

**Relationship** – the bond that connects people

**Scene** – a group of shots which are put together to tell one part of the story

**Script** – the book in which the story, the directions, the camera actions, the dialogue, and the sounds for the film are all written

**Set** – a place that is built or made to show the setting

**Setting** – the imaginary place where the film events happen

**Shot** – the moving picture seen from the time the camera is turned on until the camera is turned off

**Storyboard** – drawings of the camera shots with words that describe the pictures

**Theme** – the main idea of the story

**Writer** – the person who writes the film script



## RESOURCES

**Facets Multi-Media, Inc.** — A pioneer in independent film exhibition, distribution, and education — is a not-for-profit cultural organization founded in 1975. For more than thirty years, we have nurtured great, positive films for children through the Chicago International Children's Film Festival and associated educational and exhibition programs that include: The Chicago International Children's Film Festival, Facets Video, and The Facets Kids Film Network.

**Chicago International Children's Film Festival** — An international leader in promoting positive programming for children. Annually, the Chicago International Children's Film Festival (CICFF) presents hundreds of the best films for kids from around the world in an exciting, world-class competition. The Festival involves children and parents from throughout the city, and filmmakers from around the world. The CICFF also runs year-round media literacy and film appreciation programs, including: Facets Future Filmmakers, Young Chicago Critics, Children's Film Jury Program, Youth Jury Program, and more. Check out our web site at [www.cicff.org](http://www.cicff.org) or email us at [kidsfest@facets.org](mailto:kidsfest@facets.org).

**The Facets Kids Film Network** — Using new DVD technology, Facets and the Chicago International Children's Film Festival are expanding the range of the Festival to enable traveling film festival screenings. Featuring "bests of the fests," these traveling film festival screenings come complete with Activity Guides, audience development strategies, marketing materials, and even family take-home interactive activities! The Facets Kids Film Network makes it possible for a wide network of agencies, libraries, after-school programs, community centers, children's hospitals, day care centers, and other institutions to present the best in children's film.

**Facets Video** — one of the nation's largest distributors of foreign, classic, art, hard-to-find, and quality children's videos. We search the world for important film on video. As a result, Facets' 65,000 (and growing!) title inventory is an astounding video collection unlike any in the world, famous for its breadth and diversity.

All "related videos" included in this Guide are for sale through Facets Video. To order: Call toll-free 1-800-332-6197 (for international orders call 1-773-281-9075), fax 773-929-5437, e-mail [sales@facets.org](mailto:sales@facets.org), order on-line at [www.facets.org](http://www.facets.org), or mail your order to Facets Video. Some of the videos will be available through Facets Rentals. If you don't live nearby, ask about our rent-by-mail program. Schools, libraries, and institutions may arrange to use purchase orders.

### Contact us!

- Facets Multi-Media, Inc.—[www.facets.org](http://www.facets.org)
- Chicago International Children's Film Festival—[www.cicff.org](http://www.cicff.org)
- Facets Kids Film Network—[www.facets.org/kids/bestfest](http://www.facets.org/kids/bestfest)
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