**Film analysis intro and prior knowledge**

1.  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g2Id3ZQGxG8>

opening sequence: 3:40mins to 10:45mins (7mins)

2. discuss as a group (5mins write on butchers paper and pass to next group)

3. Class discussion (5mins one person from each group reports)

4. Explain to students any symbolic/technical elements they didnt discover.(4mins)

(~20min lesson) + (Citizen Kane 2minute scene ~10min lesson - these two lessons can be taught together or separately depending on time)

Mise-en-scéne is a French term that means “to put into scene”

Every element of mise-en-scéne has an important role within a film and serves extensive meanings.

There are four key aspects of mise-en-scéne:

the **settings** of how each sequence is staged,

**costumes** and **make-up** to illustrate a character’s image,

**lighting** which conveys the tone and the **mood** of the scenes or characters and lastly,

**figure expression and movement**that**display**the**character’s behaviour and emotions**. "Blocking" is a part of mise-en-scene it describes the placement and movement of the actors as directed by the director. This direction can define the meaning of a scene.

**The Sixth Sense Excerpt Analysis**

“Each of these mise-en-scéne components are introduced into The Sixth Sense within its opening sequence and serves to prepare the audience for the remainder of the film. Without discussing with students any codes, allow them to watch the opening sequence to find out their prior knowledge.

The **lighting** has a significant role for developing the plot and builds up anticipation. For instance, within the first few seconds a **naked** **light** **bulb** gradually heats up within a dark setting through a close-up shot. This prop, sparking to life, gives out a hint of a symbolic idea of the presence of ghosts, and implies the extraordinary attributes of Cole Sear to see them.

The **light** within the opening credits maintains an eerie and surreal atmosphere which builds up suspense. The first staged scene takes place where Anna Crowe, a young woman in a **wealthy dress**, enters a cellar to get a bottle of wine. The harsh lighting as well as Anna’s **figural expressions** when she turns round and shivers indicate the mysterious atmosphere in the cellar and viewers grasp that chilling effect. This pattern of harsh lighting and cold temperature continues throughout the remaining suspenseful scenes.

Another important element of mise-en-scéne in *The Sixth Sense*is the implementation of the colour **red**. Red is a very strong colour that can be associated with positive and negative emotions. In the majority of the opening scenes, the colour red is represented as a **symbol**: the filament of the light bulb just before it entirely lights up, the red **wine** and Anna’s **lipstick**. Director Shyamalan’s intention of frequently using this **colour within the opening sequence is to highlight specific props to provide information and to warn the audience of forthcoming events**. The award is in a red frame and it is slightly tilted, uneasy – setting up the audience and developing tension via symbolic and technical elements.

However, the **award** is in a **red** frame. This already serves as a warning to both Malcolm and Anna that danger could be heading their way, especially during the reflected close-up shot of the two. It also raises the question as to why this prop appears slanted on the chair. The hint behind this is that although it is a tender and rather romantic moment, there is something not quite straight. This suggests that the award and its position is a symbol of jeopardy. Also, the partially red lighting on the couple from the crackling fire leads us to believe that they are now the central target of a dangerous presence.

It becomes clear that Malcolm and Anna’s marriage is very strong. We see these signs from how Anna sits close to Malcolm, as well as the intimate physical contact between them. In addition, the way Anna sees it is that she puts Malcolm first before herself when she says that he shifted everything aside, including her, to display this claimed gift he has been given – supporting emotionally-troubled children. This, therefore, signifies that she truly loves and has faith in him.

Dr. Malcolm Crowe’s professional reputation and his romantic evening with Anna becomes threatened shortly afterwards when a young man breaks into his house. This individual is soon revealed to be Vincent Grey - one of Malcolm’s former patients. Our first impressions of Vincent, who is only wearing underpants, is defensive, scared and perhaps his cold figural expression and movement, indicate that he is mentally unstable. His deeply emotional state makes the audience feel sorry for him for a moment. with the need for vengeance and a psychologically unstable individual desperate for help.

We never find out precisely why Vincent is in only his underwear, but what we do learn is that Malcolm “failed” and “promised” Vincent in some way when he was a child. Malcolm’s mistakes on Vincent’s behalf still remain a mystery, but these blunders severely resulted in stripping Vincent from his mental health. We did get a glimpse of some clothing on the floor next to Vincent’s feet, but the idea behind his lack of clothing is that it displays to Malcolm the consequences of his professional failings.

**The Sixth Sense’s**opening sequence concludes on a more suspenseful note through its mise-en-scéne, which uneasily sets up the forthcoming narrative. The props, including costumes, served as significant symbols and more appear to further character development and tension.

The setting in Philadelphia, an American city with a rich history, arguably tightens the atmosphere with a narrative focused on ghosts, and the lighting progressively creates a surreal connection between the living and the dead. Thus, Shyamalan’s creative use of mise-en-scéne within this opening sequence set-up a terrifying supernatural thriller with unexpected twists and turns.” <http://wagesoffilm.tumblr.com/post/45183353801/mise-en-scene-setting-up-narrative-expectation-in>

<https://prezi.com/ivdj1mje01i1/the-sixth-sense-opening-sequence-analysis/>

**Citizen Kane excerpt analysis**

**of scene when Kane is playing in the snow as a young boy.**

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8yuR_HjCLcw>  2mins

2. The film analysis is explained as it is played.

Post lesson: These skills/tools will be applied to watching the lego movie.

**Lego movie analysis**

I chose the lego movie because: 1. It is a very modern version of animation 2. The closing scene is not animated it is real life characters juxtaposed with the animated scenes so its a great modern example of cross-cutting/parallel shots.