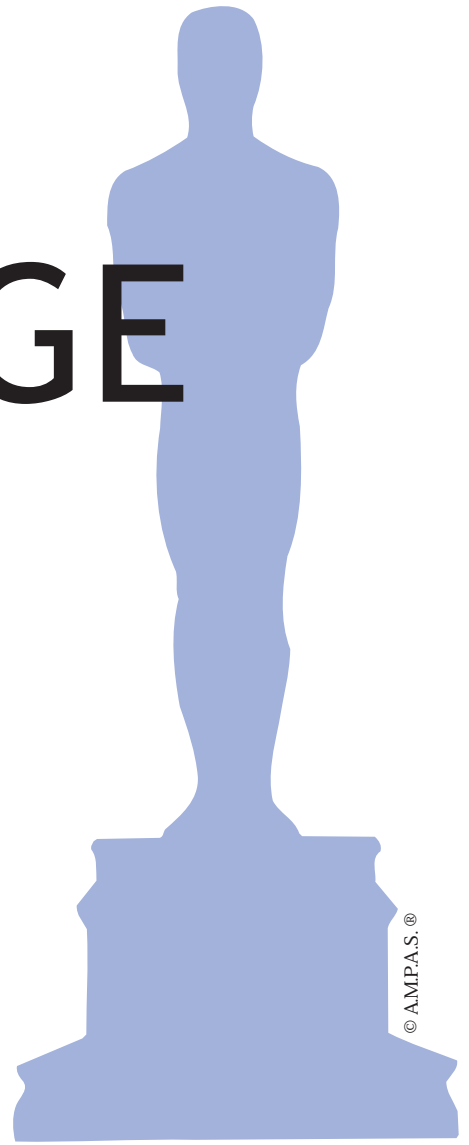
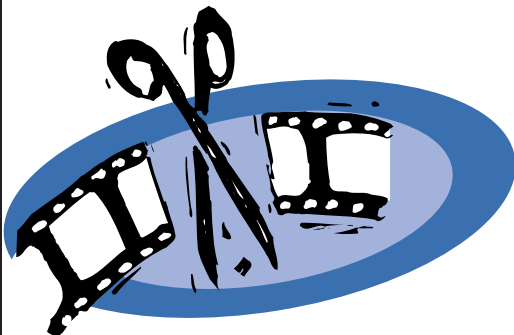
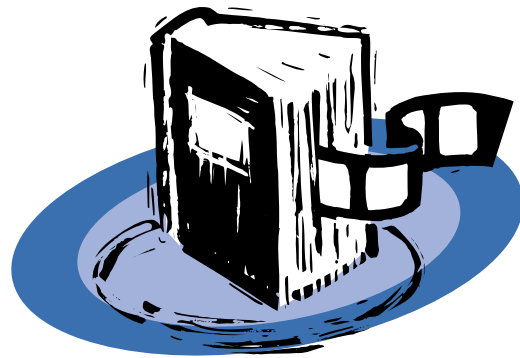
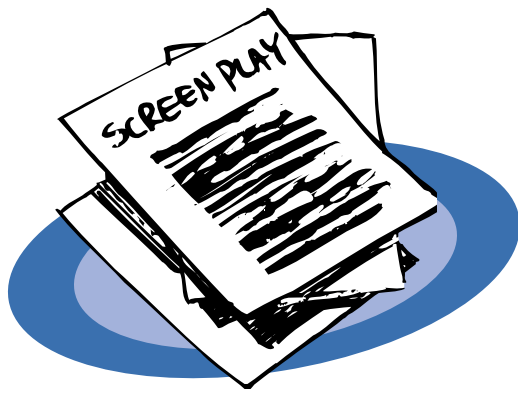


SCREENWRITING:

THE LANGUAGE *of* FILM



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Teacher's
Resource
Guide



Dear Educator:

Youth Media International, in cooperation with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, is proud to present the first in a series of annual study guides that will focus on the different branches of the Academy.

This guide focuses on the art of writing, or many craft areas involved in creating a motion picture. Students will learn about screenwriting as they complete the activities in this kit, which has been designed for students in secondary school English, language arts and communications courses. The activities are designed to capitalize on students' natural interest in current films and the excitement generated by the Academy Awards to teach valuable lessons in critical thinking and creative writing, and to develop visual literacy skills.

The Academy, organized in 1927, is a professional honorary organization composed of more than 6,000 motion picture craftsmen and women. Its purposes include advancing the art and science of motion pictures; fostering cooperation among creative leaders for cultural, educational and technological progress; recognizing outstanding achievements, and fostering educational activities between the professional community and the public at large. Academy members are the people who create movies—the cream of the industry's actors, art directors, cinematographers, costume designers, directors, film editors, make-up artists, composers, producers, sound and visual effects experts, and writers.

Please share this material with other teachers in your school. Although the material is copyrighted, you may make as many photocopies as necessary to meet your students' needs.

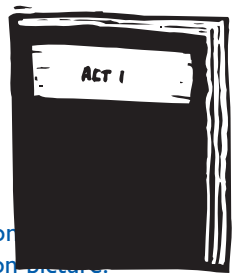
To ensure that you receive future mailings, please fill out and return the enclosed reply card. Also, feel free to e-mail us at schoolroom@aol.com to comment about the program at any time. We welcome your thoughts and suggestions.

Sincerely,



Roberta Nusim
Publisher

This is the first in a series of guides that will focus on different branches of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. If you would like to receive future kits from the Academy and its various branches, please be sure to fill out and return the enclosed reply card



Program Components

1. This instructional guide
2. Four student activity masters
3. A four-color wall poster for classroom display
4. A response card for teacher comments

Target Audience

This program has been designed for students in secondary school English, language arts and communications courses.

Program Objectives

1. To enhance student interest in and knowledge about the motion picture development and production process.
2. To encourage students to use critical thinking, creative writing and language skills as they learn how writers contribute to the process of creating a motion picture.
3. To engage students in an exploration of film as a medium of communication.
4. To help students become more visually literate.

Introduction

The first Academy Awards were handed out on May 16, 1929, just after the advent of "talkies." By 1930, enthusiasm was so great that a Los Angeles radio station did a live, one-hour broadcast, and the Awards have enjoyed broadcast coverage ever since.

The number and types of awards have grown over the years. Since 1981, Awards of Merit—Oscars—have been presented for achievement in each of the following categories or sub-divisions of categories: acting, art direction, cinematography, costume design, directing, documentary film, film editing, foreign-language film, make-up, music, best picture, animated and live-action short film, sound, sound-effects editing, visual effects and writing. In an age when awards shows seem as common as nightly news programs, the Academy Awards are unique because the judges—Academy members—are

the top filmmakers from around the world. The question, "Who gets the Oscar?!" is decided by a true jury of peers.

With the exception of the best picture, documentary,



foreign-language film and short-film categories, nominations (of up to five selections for each category) are determined by a secret ballot of Academy members representing each category. All Academy members vote to select the final winners.

The awards nomination and selection process provides a wonderful opportunity to teach your students about the many craft areas—and the many communications techniques—that play a part in creating a motion picture. Filmmaking is by nature a collaborative process, with each craft area supporting and being supported by the others. Because our space is limited, this kit focuses on just one of those areas—writing.

