

Lola's 4.6 Film Review Planning (Optional)

The Director	
Who is the director?	<i>Ben Stiller</i>
What other films has he or she directed that were noteworthy successes or failures?	<i>Ben Stiller has a lot of experience in the film industry. He has been an actor, director, writer, and a producer. From what I could see, he earned the most recognition for the movie Tropic Thunder. That film earned Academy and Golden Globe nominations.</i>
How do you think the director wants the audience to react to the film? Was the director successful in doing so?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - humour (successful) - inspired (successful)
The Story	
Provide a brief, but purposeful plot summary.	<i>Basically, The Secret Life of Walter Mitty is about a man who breaks away from his boring life, embarks on a journey to find a photographer and a missing negative, and manages to find himself along the way.</i>
Quote lines and refer to specific events that support your claim.	<i>"I expect full consideration of negative 25 for cover. My most grand. The quintessence of life" (Sean).</i> <i>"That song is about courage and going into the unknown. It's a cool song." (Cheryl).</i> <i>"I am alone." (Walter).</i> <i>"Beautiful things don't ask for attention." (Sean).</i>
The Cast	
Identify the actors who play important roles in the film. Are they believable? Effective?	<i>Ben Stiller (director and actor in this film)</i> <i>Sean Penn (two-time Academy Award winner for Best Actor, other films)</i> <i>Adam Scott (Parks & Recreation, TV show)</i>
Key Directorial Decisions	
Discuss the effectiveness of cinematography, soundtrack, and lighting choices.	<i>Extreme long shots to show Walter either disappearing in the city, or persevering when travelling abroad.</i> <i>"Space Oddity" (David Bowie) lyrics suit Walter's journey.</i> <i>"Don't Let it Pass" lyrics—don't compromise what's important to you.</i>
Your Final Word	
Your final words on the subject. Should people see it, or should they avoid it?	<i>Definitely recommend it!</i> <i>This is a movie that will make you laugh and inspire you to be yourself and live the life you always wanted.</i>



Lola's 4.6 Film Review Script (Optional)

Ben Stiller stars and directs *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*, a comedy that will inspire you to live life to the fullest. After Academy Award and Golden Globe nominated film *Tropic Thunder*, Stiller delivers a film with everything from awesome scenery to fun action scenes.

Wow! This paragraph is only two sentences, but it is FULL of great detail.

Basically, *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* is about a powerless little man who breaks away from his boring life, embarks on a journey to find a photographer and a missing negative, but also manages to find himself along the way. The conflict begins when Sean O'Connell, a respected photographer, announces he wants his photograph, "negative 25," to appear on the last cover of *LIFE* magazine. Sean calls this photograph his "most grand" and "The Quintessence of Life." The only problem is this: negative 25 is missing. Kristen Wiig plays Cheryl Melhoff, Walter's love interest in the film. She encourages him to go to Greenland to find Sean, and hopefully to find negative 25. Two-time Academy Award winner for Best Actor, Sean Penn perfectly plays the role of Sean O'Connell, the adventurous photographer. ●

This paragraph feels like it needs a closing sentence of some kind.

Ben Stiller, the director, creates some pretty spectacular moments in the film that show how Walter changes. Using extreme long shots in the beginning, Walter disappears in the city where he lives and works. Using extreme long shots in Iceland and the Himalayas, we see Walter heroically facing the unknown. If you're into skateboarding, you'll love the scene where Walter races down a highway on a skateboard with rocks tied to his palms for stability. This is an epic moment for Walter, who reconnects to his past love of skateboarding and remembers the future he had seen for himself when he was young.

Your topic sentence focuses your discussion well.

I like how you describe the effect of the cinematic techniques. Really engaging!



Lola's 4.6 Film Review Script (Optional)







The soundtrack for the film matches the action and the characters perfectly. The main song in the film is David Bowie's "Space Oddity." Ted, Walter's antagonist who is played by Adam Scott, calls Walter "Major Tom" to bully and insult him in front of everyone. Later Cheryl sings the same song to Walter to motivate him to act (another cool moment in the film). There are other great tunes in the film, but this one in particular connects to the characters, the plot, and the theme of the film.

I like how you focus on the most important examples and discuss them in detail. Thoughtful choices, Lola.

This movie isn't perfect, and there are some scenes that are pretty silly. Walter Mitty's character fantasizes to cope with reality, so the silly scenes actually have a purpose. In the end, Stilller wants the audience to have a laugh and feel inspired to be the heroes of their own lives. He delivers with *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*.

Good connection to the director's overall purpose with the film

4.6 Film Review

Value	Ideas and Evidence	Presentation
 Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Your discussion of the plot, the director's decisions in technique, and the cast reveals an <i>impressive</i> understanding of the film. <input type="checkbox"/> Your arrangement of supporting details is <i>skilfully organized and engaging</i> .	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Your choices to persuade and engage your audience are <i>precise and effective</i> . <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Your oral delivery demonstrates <i>confident</i> control of volume, breathing, emphasis, and pacing .
 Proficient	<input type="checkbox"/> Your discussion of the plot, the director's decisions in technique, and the cast reveals a <i>thoughtful</i> understanding of the film. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Your arrangement of supporting details is <i>logically organized and fluent</i> .	<input type="checkbox"/> Your choices to persuade and engage your audience are <i>thoughtful and appropriate</i> . <input type="checkbox"/> Your oral delivery demonstrates <i>competent</i> control of volume, breathing, emphasis, and pacing .
 Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Your discussion of the plot, the director's decisions in technique, and the cast reveals a <i>basic</i> understanding of the film. <input type="checkbox"/> Your arrangement of supporting details is <i>simply organized</i> .	<input type="checkbox"/> Your choices to persuade and engage your audience are <i>adequate</i> . <input type="checkbox"/> Your oral delivery demonstrates <i>suitable</i> control of volume, breathing, emphasis, and pacing .
 Limited	<input type="checkbox"/> Your discussion of the plot, the director's decisions in technique, and the cast reveals a <i>vague and/or confused</i> understanding of the film. <input type="checkbox"/> Your arrangement of supporting details is <i>ineffective</i> .	<input type="checkbox"/> Your choices to persuade and engage your audience are <i>lacking</i> . <input type="checkbox"/> Your oral delivery demonstrates <i>little</i> control of volume, breathing, emphasis, and pacing .
 Resubmission Needed	Your attempt to respond is <i>insufficient</i> . Contact your teacher to discuss suggestions for improvement and resubmission of your work.	
TOTAL: 37/40 = 93%	27/30	10/10
 Assessment	<p>Areas of strength: <i>Your strong organization allows you to pack a lot of information into your review. Your plot summary in paragraph two is a great example of how you pull specific and convincing details together skilfully. Your explanation of the effect of the director's cinematic choices is impressive! Your introductions to the cast are thoughtful. Your arrangement of the supporting details in your body paragraphs flows logically and is easy to follow. Good work!</i></p> <p>Might I suggest: <i>Many of your choices are effective; however, I'd suggest you consider a different opening to capture the audience's attention. "Living life to the fullest" is a cliché, an overused expression. Looking over your work again, how might you introduce your film review with more pizzazz? My second suggestion focuses on the closure to paragraph two. Try to end your paragraphs purposefully.</i></p>	