I. LESSON TITLE
Writing a Movie Review

II. MOST ESSENTIAL LEARNING COMPETENCIES (MELCs)
MELC 17: Compose an independent critique of a chosen selection

III. CONTENT/CORE CONTENT

IV. LEARNING PHASES

A. Introduction

Day 1 (30 mins.)

In accomplishing the tasks included in this lesson, you will be engaged in writing a critique. This lesson will allow you to practice being critical in analyzing thoughts and ideas presented as well as to express your opinion and evaluation of a particular selection or subject.

At present, technology and innovation play a significant role on how art, information, ideas, literature, or any material are presented to its target audiences. It transitioned from conventionally written forms to digital formats and even moving pictures. Writing a critique on any subject provides a space to discuss its strengths and weaknesses. Moreover, it provides the writer with the opportunity to state his/her impression on the subject.

A critique as a form of academic writing could be applied in analyzing various materials such as arts, literary works, research, and media articles. One example of it is a movie review.

WHAT IS A MOVIE REVIEW?

A movie review sums up the author’s personal impression and critical evaluation of a film and its elements organized in paragraphs. Its main purpose is to inform, analyze, convince, and entertain. Writing a movie review aims at providing the readers with something to look forward to without spoiling the content of the film.

How to Write an Effective Movie Review

Here are 7 paragraphs to complete the content of your movie review.

**HEADLINE: TITLE OF THE MOVIE (TRY TO ADD A PUN)**

1.) FILM INTRO

Introduce the film by saying that you have just watched it and would like to share your opinion on it. Indicate a few details that will help the reader understand what type of film you are referring to.

2.) PLOT SUMMARY

Summarize the plot of the movie. Indicate its setting and main characters. Remember, a summary has to be brief but contain the necessary details. Do NOT include spoilers of any kind on any part of the movie.

3.) SETTING SPOTLIGHT

Elaborate on how the setting contributed to the effectiveness of the film, to the actions of the casts, and to the emotions and atmosphere it sets through every scene.

4.) CHARACTER LIMELIGHT

Talk about the actors/actresses and how they portrayed their characters in the movie. Discuss about their characters and how the actors are effective or not in giving justice to their roles.
**B. Development**

**Day 1-2** (90 mins.)

**Learning Task 1:** The table below consists of shuffled parts of a movie review. Identify which part of movie review is presented by each paragraph. Choose your answers from the options provided inside the box. Write only the letter of your answer.

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Title</td>
<td>B. Film Intro</td>
<td>C. Plot Summary</td>
<td>D. Setting Spotlight</td>
<td>E. Character Limelight</td>
<td>F. Likes and Dislikes</td>
<td>G. Lesson Learned</td>
<td>H. Recommendations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PARAGRAPHS**

1. The film was keen on details and it’s refreshing. This film deserves to be watched to inspire each and every one of us. If you allow it, the film can even move your heart. If you liked *Kita Kita*, then I assure you that you’ll dig *100 Tula Para Kay Stella* as well and get the “I want to watch it again!” feeling.

2. Loser to Ideal-type
   The film successfully delivered the characters’ journey. First, JC Santos as Fidel shows writing poems as an outlet for someone who wanted to avoid being laughed at because of his speech defect. He proves how inspiration can change life and that same inspiration is not enough to win a girl or to have a happy ending. Santos’s performance, when Stella hands down the poems to him, creates a heartbreaking confrontation scene. ‘Frienzoned’ right there. Then, there is Bela Padilla as Stella, who surprises us with her natural acting skill. She’s effortless even if she is playing a frustrated rock artist who is facing many challenges in life. I found myself in roller coaster as I watch her character, from loving her to hating her, but I realized, she’s an epitome of a character we need to embrace.

3. *‘100 Tula Para kay Stella’* is directed by Jason Paul Laxamana. It is a story about a freshman, Fidel, who stutters. He loves poetry which serves as his avenue to express his love for the campus rock star, Stella. When in college, they become close friends. When he reached his 100th poem, Fidel finally gave the poems to Stella to confess his love. Yes, it is about friendship beginnings that turned into ‘love’, but it’s not a typical love story that we’ve seen in Pinoy teen romance films.

4. 90’s Feels
   Aside from the excellent casts, there’s the element of nostalgia in the film, resonating with the millennials. I know Gen X and even Y will be delighted to see the days of the vintage Nokia phone, diskettes and cassette tapes, and POP idols like 98’ Degrees and Mariah Carey. With Rivermaya’s “Balisong”, it displays the time when Pinoy Rock Bands were in boom. Even Friendster existed and it sounds bizarre and interesting at the same time seeing the time of social media back then.

5. Just with the title, I got the “I want to watch this!” feeling. At first, when I heard it from my classmates, I thought it would be about ‘spoken poetry’ which has been in social media platforms nowadays, but I was totally wrong. Since Pista ng Pelikulang Pilipino (PPP) is over, let me share some insights about this movie.

6. Catharsis in Nostalgia
   By Abigail Eclavea

7. It is with the effect that Filipino film makers are thriving to offer something fresh and new to movie audiences. *‘100 Tula Para kay Stella’* gives the idea that mainstream and indie film are put together. It surprisingly includes some elements that are hardly present in mainstream cinema. I love that there’s more to poetry and music in the movie. It features admirable characters and the 2000’s vibes.

Source: The Paladian Volume XVIII No. 1 June-October 2017
Learning Task 2: The paragraphs below consist of shuffled parts of a movie review. Arrange the paragraphs to form a comprehensive movie review of the film, “Kita-Kita”. Organize the paragraphs using the letters of the alphabet. Start with the letter A to arrange the paragraphs in sequential order.

1. It’s so simple an idea but it works. “Kita Kita” is really just a two-actor film about a Filipino tour guide in Sapporo, Japan, who gets her heart broken and goes blind. Her neighbor, also a Filipino, comes over to her house every day to try and cheer her up and a romance blossoms between them. The movie revolves around this simple plot yet it fills out its 84-minute running time and leaves you completely satisfied at the end. There’s this push and pull about the gimmick of her being blind but it’s used more narratively, and even lyrically, than it is for easy jokes.

2. “Kita Kita” is an eye-opener for the romantic comedy genre.

3. And writer/director Sigrid Andrea Bernardo knows what to do with her camera. In a film about not being able to see, she knows when to give us close-ups and knows when to zoom out. She frames the couple amidst a backdrop of a quaint and rural Japan with the knowledge that one of these characters cannot see it. But in the breaking down of Lea’s walls, the grand architecture or the fields of multi-colored flowers become symbols of Lea’s internal world. It’s a lovely use of cinematography for a film like this.

4. It seems, in its trailers, that the comedy is going to stem from Empoy Marquez being not the typical matinee idol and romantic lead type for a woman as gorgeous as Alessandra de Rossi except, since she’s blind, she doesn’t know that. But the film never goes there. It doesn’t go for the easy laughs. Her blindness is caused by the stress of her breakup, and she is shut out from life, and Marquez’s Tonyo asks her to be his tour guide as he will be her eyes. What unfold is a story about kindness and how it can warm even the coldest of hearts. The film utilizes Empoy Marquez’s magnificent comic timing and transforms him into this charming leading man, who becomes ideal because he comes off as a genuinely nice guy. And without acting with her eyes, Alessandra de Rossi shows us how her walls and her bitterness are slowly taken down one by one. It’s all body language and voice acting. She begins very hard, her voice deep with layer of threatening. But as Tonyo continues to charm his way into Lea’s heart, she gets soft, her voice deep with layer of threatening. But as Tonyo continues to charm his way into Lea’s heart, she gets soft, her voice gets sweeter. It’s a lovely subtle performance by de Rossi.

5. “Kita Kita” is a charming film that gives us a fresh look into the romantic comedy genre. It doesn’t rely on prefabricated chemistry or overly complicated plots. It’s just two amazing actors going through the process without being flashy or trendy or cool. And with the simplest of plots, we’ve come to realize that is enough for us to enjoy going to the cinema.

6. For 84 minutes, you are watching this love story materialize in front of your eyes and it hinges on Marquez being charming and de Rossi falling for the charms, and it’s best shown in what seem like unscripted moments and improvised scenes. And just when you’ve been convinced, the film brings you to another level entirely and takes you on another journey that is surprising and profound.


C. Engagement

Day 3-4
(90 mins.)

Learning Task 3: Watch a Filipino film on television or via movie streaming sites. Accomplish the table below after watching the film. Then, write your movie review based on your answers in the table. Consider the pointers on how to write a movie review as discussed in this lesson.

Movie Review Template Guide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>(Briefly summarize the plot. Avoid spoilers)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Characters</td>
<td>(Talk about the main actors and their characters. Are they effective in portraying their role?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting</td>
<td>(Talk about the setting and how it contributed to the film)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesson</td>
<td>(What did you learn from the movie?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likes/Dislikes</td>
<td>(What did you like/dislike in the movie?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation</td>
<td>(Would you recommend the film to other people? If so, which group of people would enjoy watching the film?)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your output will be graded using the rubrics below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Excellent 3</th>
<th>Good 2</th>
<th>Needs Improvement 1</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summary</td>
<td>Writer provides a brief plot summary without disclosing too much about the film.</td>
<td>Writer provides a detailed but information lacking plot summary.</td>
<td>Writer provides a plot synopsis that tell too little or too much about the film.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Whenever you are tasked to write a critique, it is a must that you know the steps or process of writing one, but it is also important that you understand what you are about to do and why you are doing it in order to create an effective and quality output.

V. ASSESSMENT

INSTRUCTIONS: Read and analyze the statements below. Write MOVIE if the statement is true and REVIEW if the statement is false. Then, underline the word or phrase which made the statement incorrect.

1. Movie review is an example of a critique.
2. An effective movie review consists only of the writer’s opinion.
3. Writing a movie review allows the writer to criticize a film and its elements as well as to give their biased impression about the entire film.
4. Creating a product review is also an example of writing a critique.
5. An effective movie review should include the writer’s opinion and evaluation of the film told in an unbiased and objective approach.

VI. REFLECTION

Reflect on what you learned on this lesson about writing a critique, specifically a movie review, by completing the statements below.

1. The part of the lesson which help me understand more of the topic is...
2. The task which I found difficult, and challenging is because...
3. I realized that learning how to write a critique like a movie review could be helpful when...