How to Watch a Movie

Previewing		
Make predictions	• Look at the cover. What does it tell you about the movie?	
Genre (category) • comedy • action • adventure • romance • drama	• What kind of movie will you be watching? • What are some features of this genre? • What often happens in this type of movie?	

Viewing		
Asking questions	• How realistic is the movie meant to be? • Is the movie aimed at a specific audience? • Are the story, language, and setting appropriate to the intended audience? • Are the characters well portrayed? • Does the movie follow a predictable pattern, or are there twists? • How does the music or soundtrack help to establish the mood of the movie? Also, if applicable: • How does the music or soundtrack create suspense and emphasize emotion? Also, if applicable: • How does the music or soundtrack emphasize emotion?	

Considering (Part I)		
Consider the characters	• Who are the main characters? • What is their relationship to each other? • What challenges do they face (personal, social)? • Do they solve these problems? • How do the characters change throughout the movie? • Do other things in the movie change because of this society, social group? • Are the characters and their situation believable?	
Considering (Part II)		
Consider the message	• What does the movie say about people and life? • Does the movie present an optimistic or pessimistic view of life? • Is the movie trying to present a social message? • In the end, is this message presented directly, clearly, or has the director used symbolism or metaphor to get the message across?	
Evaluating		
Evaluate the movie	• How well was the plot developed and suspense maintained? • How appropriate was the choice of cast? • What was the quality of the production—camera work, setting, cinematography, editing? • To what extent were you emotionally moved by the story? Why?	