***Narratives:***

***Closed Narrative*** *– This is when a film has a ‘tight’ reading; they are usually about 2 hours long and have an ending which completes the story. This usually involves a soundtrack and non-diegetic music. These type of narratives usually compiles many years into the 2 hours of the film, an example of this is ‘About time’ which compresses 20 years into 2 hours and has an ending to the story. These types of narratives are used to allow the audience to indulge in the storyline and they like to know the outcome of the characters over the period of time in the film and make them feel good when the plot ends e.g. when karate kid defeats his opponent.*

***Open Narrative*** *– This is when the storyline usually have many characters and no foreseeable ending. An example of this is a soap opera such as Eastenders because it is a continuous TV programme which doesn’t have an ending meaning new storylines are being introduced constantly to keep an active audience. These are usually multi-stranded and in ‘real time’. It also has characters shift in and out. Open narratives are used in order to keep storylines going which will keep an active audience as they will want to be kept up with new characters and stories.*

***Multi-Strand Narrative*** *– This is when there are multiple points that tell one story and/or coincide in the end. A film example of this is ‘Love Actually’, this is because it has around 8 different stories but are all connected in some way and all end up linking and in the same place in the end. Multi-stranded narratives are used in film because it allows the audience to want to know the outcome for each strand and how they’re related to each other which keeps the audience interested and wanting to watch it all.*

***Point of View Narrative*** *– This is when a film is shown from different vantage points. The ‘I’ point of view is often from the character in the story who best serves the writers purpose. An example of this is Gulliver from Gulliver’s travels. You see the story through one character e.g. Gulliver and it stays with him and how he sees the story. This is used in films to show the story from one perspective and shows a characters story e.g. Gulliver’s story of where he travelled too, what he did and how he felt.*

***Plot devices:***

***Plot twist –*** *This is a technique that introduces a radical change in the direction or expected outcome of the plot in a work of fiction. It is used in films in order to change the audience’s expectation of the events and the ending. The plot twist may be foreshadowed to prepare the audience to accept it. An example of a film with a plot twist is ‘The Sixth Sense’. These are used to create excitement for the audience as it changes the plot unexpectedly.*

***MacGuffin –*** *This is when an object, person, place or device in a film which serves merely as a trigger for the plot. This often has little or no narrative explanation. It is common in films, especially thrillers. Usually, the MacGuffin is revealed in the first act, and thereafter declines in importance. An example of this is from ‘Pulp Fiction’, the briefcase is used as something that the characters are after, but you never see what is inside. This technique is used to make the audience want to know, for example what is in the briefcase, to want to keep watching. It is introduced at the beginning to hook the audience into keep watching.*

***Deus ex machina –*** *This is an unexpected, artificial or improbable character, device or event introduced suddenly in a work of fiction to resolve a situation or untangle a plot. An example of this being used in a film is ‘Harry Potter: the goblet of fire’, Harrys and Voldemorts wands touch and Harry escapes. An event led to a solution e.g. escaping danger.*

***Red Herring –*** *This is a false clue intended to lead investigators toward an incorrect solution. It can also be used as a form of false foreshadowing. This is used in films to deceive the audience of the future events and ending as it plants ideas of what they think will happen earlier on in the film. An example of this being used in a film is ‘Psycho’ as the murderer turns out to be Norman Bates. A red herring can be used for fun in films or sometimes for a serious point in the plot. They can be hidden in back-story but sometimes is predominant enough to make the audience believe it has something to do with solving the story plot.*

***In media res –*** *This is a narrative work opening in the midst of the plot. Often, exposition is bypassed and filled in gradually, either through dialogue, flashbacks or description of past events. An example of this in a film is ‘Odyssey’, it tells the story of Odysseus which begins almost at the end of his wanderings. When used in films it is generally a preamble to a flashback and is also a quick way to have an action sequence at the beginning of a film or episode.*

***Overview of the narrative:***

***Exposition:*** *This is something which is used to give background information to the audience about the setting and the characters of the story. An example of this is from Star Wars in the Intro scene of the scrolling text which explains the previous events, it helps the audience to understand the characters and plot before the film starts. This is used in films to set the scene and give brief information of the characters and previous events.*

***Rising Action:*** *This is in a plot of relevant incidents that create suspense, interest, and tension in a narrative. An example of this being used in a film is ‘Twilight’, when the rogue vampires smell Bella and try to kill her. This creates tension and action as they are angry and want to kill Bella so it creates a fight scene. Rising action is used in films to make the audience feel tense over a situation and also to make them want to keep watching as it gives them excitement due to the tension.*

***Climax:*** *This is the point of highest tension and drama or it is the time when the action starts during which the solution is given. An example of this is from the film ‘The Lion King’ when Simba and Scar battle. This created the highest point of drama in the film as it is also Scar’s death scene; it creates shock to the audience. This is used in films to provide a surprise aspect to the audience on top of the tension it originally created.*

***Falling Action:*** *This occurs after the climax as the main problem of the story resolves. It wraps up the narrative, resolves its loose ends, and leads toward the closure. An example of falling action is in ‘Moana’. It happens after Maui and Moana battle Te Ka and are defeated. It shows Moana giving up and trying to put the task onto someone else. Falling action is used in films to wrap up the narrative and help lead the film to an end.*

***Resolution:*** *This is the part of the story's plot where the main problem is resolved or worked out. The resolution occurs after the falling action and is typically where the story ends. An example of this is from ‘Peter Pan’ when peter sails Captain Hook’s boat home to London and puts the children back to bed. Resolutions are used in films to end them, such as Peter Pan returns the children home where they are safe and where he found them in the beginning of the film.*