

# GCSE Digital Communication

## Unit 1

### Sample 1

## Digital Communication Controlled Assessment Unit 1

When Will gets sent out it shows he is an obedient student as he does what the teacher tells him straight away. It shows he is cooperative, respectful and a possibly boring pupil. He walks over and spits some water into a fishbowl and writes July. It gives the impression that he is organised and a creature of habit. It also hints to the audience that he doesn't have many friends. Also, he has a book with lots of colourful pictures in showing he is imaginative and creative. The way he holds it, close to his chest, could indicate how much he values and treasures it.

When Lee gets sent out, he is very different from Will. For example, he shouts back at the angry teacher showing disrespect for authority. He also retaliates when his classmates jeer him from inside the classroom (a sign he isn't liked). He starts bouncing a tennis ball on the wall, maybe showing boredom. Lee also shows aggressiveness when throwing the tennis ball at Will's head. This is a long shot which creates perspective on the audience. Will tries not to react, he is timid and has not met anyone quite like Lee before. Lee is threatening.

Will gets up and Lee starts looking through Will's book. There is a close up of Will's face showing horror and frightened look. Even though he is clearly startled, he still tries to get the book back from Lee which indicates how important it is to him. This also shows that Will has not experienced this before. They struggle to get the book and the fishbowl gets knocked over. There is non-diegetic music to add drama to the scene.

The next scene is a mid shot of Lee and Will outside the headteacher's office. You can see the difference in character between the two; Will is sat up straight and still looks petrified, while Lee is fidgeting, showing the audience that Will is well-behaved and Lee is not. Also it shows that Lee has been in this position before and Will has not.

Their appearances also tell the audience about their personalities. Lee has a short-sleeved shirt untucked and spiky hair ~~that~~, whereas Will has a blazer, shirt tucked in and tie with combed hair which shows Will is a more tidy person.

Lee shows his cocky arrogance when he gets up and tries to walk away but the teacher tells him to sit back down. Lee does all of the talking in the scene asking Will's name etc. This shows Will hasn't got many social skills. Lee also shows his hustling skills making up a fake story about torture which shows his own creative idea. He was shouting loudly at the teacher, but for this he lowers his voice.

The first time in the film is where Will reflects on his religion when he says he will pray for Lee Carter. He is timid and gullible.

## Controlled Assessment

The scene that creates a sense of danger starts the Land Rover and drives it through the fences. It makes the audience feel tense and when Didier drives through the gates (which could ~~be~~ represent curtains opening) there is a lot of noise, clanging and voices can be heard shouting.

The director then cuts to a close up of Didier; he is relaxed, smoking, one handed and calm. This shot also has an ironic contrast due to the non-diegetic sounds. It is only when you see the point of view of Will - taken from his video-camera - that the audience gets a glimpse of how fast they are going and they start to lose control.

When Didier drops his cigarette on his lap, his calm expression quickly changes and he now looks worried and frightened. The quick cuts increase the pace of the action as Didier loses pace and becomes twitchy.

Will falls into the oil and from a high angle, the audience sees that he is vulnerable and helpless. The black bubbling liquid implies death and puts the audience on edge. There is non-diegetic music: chilling action music on violins and there is also a single tolling bell. The metal clanging and creaking sounds have been used to single out the action. This is the first time in the film where there is a danger of death.

All the music stops when Will's face ~~becomes~~ becomes invisible. The director has purposely chosen the black liquid because of its thickness; it could represent suffocating.

There is a tracking, low ~~level~~ ~~shot~~ angle shot. There is no sound, suggesting to the audience that ~~everybody~~ everybody has left the scene. It is quiet till; is this the end?

Lee comes out of the blue to save Will. seemingly, the danger ~~change~~ has been averted and the audience is lulled into a false sense security. Relief

turns to anger and Lee starts shouting at Wren. The audience has been given a rollercoaster of emotions by the directors choices, which help to create tension within the entire scene.



## Controlled Assessment C

A rite of passage is a ritual event that marks a person's progress from one status to another. It could involve a mission or quest that inspires the protagonists to go from childhood to adulthood. The genre often shows a character discovering himself.

The moving image text *Son of Rambow* conforms to the rite of passage genre. It targets an adult audience by using references to the 1980s, such as the film 'Rambow' and rich exchange students. It makes the older audience reminisce about their past and helps to take them on an emotional journey knowing that they could have experienced the same problems or events.

The main characters encounter different cultural backgrounds; for example Will Proudfoot is a member of the Bretherin (a religious group). There are other differences between Will and Lee Carter; Will ~~was~~ comes from a quiet family but Lee comes from a more rebellious background.

There is emotional bonding in the film as well: Lee and Will's friendship signified by Blood Brothers. Blood Brothers shows that behind all the drama and tension between the ~~two~~ two main protagonists, there is ~~is~~ still a childhood innocence to them. It builds the message that even as kids you have to deal with friendships.

I think that a loss of innocence is shown between the two characters at the end of the film. At first, the main 'mission' was to win screen test, but towards the end the real quest was to keep the friendship between Will and Lee. They succeeded ~~there~~ despite falling out,

which shows they ~~are~~ have learnt to forgive and compromise in order to keep your friends. They have realised that the world is not kind to you and have 'grown up'.

Many of the same genre conventions can be found in 'Stand by Me'. The main protagonists are again children showing the same ~~childhood~~ childhood ~~than~~ innocence ~~from~~ found in 'Son of Rambow'.

Chris and Gordie are probably the main characters of the group as their friendship is usually the most under threat due to their different backgrounds. Similar to Will and Lee's friendship, Chris comes from a rough upbringing and ~~one~~ one of his parents is in prison. This comes through as he is the most rebellious of the four; he antagonises his enemies and sticks up for his friends. He never gives up without a fight, ~~and~~ and it is shown in the scene where he tells the older kids to give Gordie's hat (which the older kids had stolen from him) back. He gets floored and threatened as a result.

Gordie's parents don't approve of ~~the~~ Chris' family and they often refer to them as 'their type'. Gordie also has to lie to go out with Chris, showing the strength of their friendship.

The film appeals to a slightly wider range of adults because it depicts quite a lot of pop-culture from the 1980's, for example the music, cars and fashion.

Other genre conventions used by both films is emotional bonding. In 'Son of Rambow' it was 'blood brothers' and in 'Stand by Me' there is 'Skin it' and 'Pinky Swear'. Also, ~~a~~ a feature used in both films is the characters being dependant

cont.

of a family member. In *Stand by Me*, Teddy breaks down when a man starts talking about his father and in *Son of Rambow*, Lee gets into an emotional state when Will calls his brother a scab. At both points in the films you start to sympathise both the characters.

The main similarity between both moving image texts, is the loss of innocence shown in the characters. In *Stand by Me*, seeing the dead body <sup>inspires</sup> Gordy ~~to~~ to confront the gang with a gun, whereas before he would not have had the courage.