End Stage 5 English student work sample – Grade B

Movie Review - Remember The Titans

In 1970's USA, racism and segregation was still present. It affected most, if not all, of the American population and the populations of many other countries. 'Remember the Titans' deals with these issues in a way that many people can relate to, and tells its story with integrity and sensitivity.

Popular culture refers to cultural experiences widely enjoyed by members of various groups within the community. 'Remember the Titans' fits into popular culture because many people can relate to the issues it dealt with.

An all-black school is voted down and the students have to go to an all-white school. The football team, which is now mixed, has to learn to overcome their difficulties with each other and the community. They face racism from coaching staff, opposing teams, and community members.

The main characters are Coach Boone, Coach Yoast, Greg Bertier, and Julius Monroe.

Coach Boone, the African American coach, is a tough, determined man who wants to bring his team together and break through the attitudes of the racist community. Coach Yoast, the white coach, must learn to overcome the colour of his players' skin and accept the leadership of Coach Boone.

Greg Bertier, the white captain, is very racist until he becomes friends with Julius Monroe. He sets an example.
for... When... Judith finds it difficult to accept that she
is being treated equally, but soon forms a close friendship
with Fang and other white members of the team.

This film has many aspects. Firstly, it tells a story of
overcoming challenges and triumphing over ‘evil’ attitudes, without
losing hope. Most of the characters can be related to and
liked. It also appeals to many because of the way it
incorporates popular and youth culture. Its themes can
be related to by many people, and youth can identify
with the pressures and troubles that the teenage characters
are experiencing.

The fact that the movie is based around football also
helps it appeal to youth. In America, football is second
only to baseball in popularity, yet many other countries
have their own version, such as rugby, league or union.

The director has used music in the film that appeals
to many people and which makes the film more
enjoyable. Uplifting songs are played when the team is winning
to get the audience into the spirit of the movie.

The use of camera angles in the film adds to its appeal
and makes the serious moments very important. These camera
angles are used to great effect in cooperation with the lighting
to create important mood within the scene.

Costume helps to add to the film’s meaning. The uniform
of the team creates a sense of discipline, unity and
power. This movie is all about unity and this helps to
Grade Commentary

Jo has demonstrated a high level of competence in composing a film review. An effective, personal approach has been taken and all relevant areas have been covered but the ideas have not been synthesized to create an holistic response. Additional detail in some areas and more effective use of language would enhance this review.

Jo's response demonstrates characteristics of work typically produced by a student performing at grade B standard at the end of Stage 5.