

In the movie 'The Dark Knight' by Christopher Nolan an important scene I chose to analyse was the opening scene of the bank robbery. The aspects I analysed were lighting, theme, camera work and characters actions.

In the scene of the bank robbery the Joker was wearing a clown mask to cover himself up and **hide his identity** until the end of the scene. When he took his mask off and revealed himself the screen had a **green tinge to** it, showing what type of criminal the Joker was. Which is a careless criminal, not caring about what anyone thinks of him and to murder or hurt anyone or anything in his way, his hair also is slightly green showing he doesn't care about his appearance and his hygiene. Lighting was used in this scene around the Joker (1).

Another aspect is camera work. Camera work is a big aspect in this first scene. Whilst in the bank robbery and the Joker revealing himself by taking off the mask the camera moves to a low angle shot looking up at the Joker to make him look more powerful and dominant. The bank manager was on the floor and the camera looked down at him making it a high angle shot so he looks afraid and less dominant. It shows another permanent mask on his face **in a close-up shot which revealed his identity and how he's hiding from justice in order to get away with murder and much more** (2).

Character's actions throughout the first scene were good. The Joker lies to his accomplices about the dirty work they were doing. He set them all up to be killed by each other during the robbery, by saying if you kill one it's one less share and more money for you. The Joker shows us how ruthless and selfish he is. How he only lives for himself and plays mind games with people. **He also shows how sinister he is by putting grenades into the hostage's hands and one into the bank manager's mouth.** One of the clown criminals says "obviously we don't want any of you doing anything with your hands, other than holding onto dear life". **The Joker would be amused by that sort of behaviour because he finds everything a joke after all that's why he has the name of 'The Joker' he likes to see people be petrified in their last moments of life** (3).

The theme of greed is shown in this scene through the characters actions. Gotham City has a circle of greedy criminals all after money and they do whatever it takes to get it. This is shown **when all the accomplices in the bank robbery attempt to kill each other so that there will be fewer shares increasing the remaining criminals share.** In the end **none of them get anything because they all get killed by each other.** This shows the audience that **greed initially caused them to rob the bank and even though they were successful in robbing the bank by working together their greed caused their further downfall because they were willing to do anything to have more of the money even killing one another** (4).