Y12 Media Studies – 2.5 – Coming-of-Age Brief Template

Production Brief:
- Make a Coming-of-Age styled short film of 3 - 7 minutes in length.
- The intended audience should be teenagers / young adults aged 15 - 18 years old.
- No offensive language / gratuitous drugs - alcohol / self-harm - suicide / graphic violence elements in your film.

Concept

(1) Findings of survey research:

The research that I conducted Shows that people between the ages of 15 to 18 favourite narrator elements was relationship drama. The 2nd most popular answer was attempt to fit in, get friends or be popular. The 3rd most popular answer was the protagonist having an identity crisis and working out who they are.

The characters that they like to see the most were misfits / rebels / outsiders. Tthe second most popular answer was a best friend love interest and thirdly dumb blonde character

For the Common settings that they like, the most popular answer was school then family home and then teens bedroom

'Elevator Pitch' product concept outline:

When a boy loses his mum He is struggling to comprehend what is happening and keeps having flashbacks for the last trip that he went away with his mum an away. When he getting idea from one of his mentor which will help him Turn his whole life around.

How my concept appeals to and is appropriate for the target audience and the production brief:

(2) This relates to the target audience because people might have lost someone Like Grayson and are struggling to Stop blaming themselves. Grayson has recently lost his mum and is struggling so he uses music as a coping mechanism. This could be useful to Target audience and maybe this could help them as well. The target audience would like the protagonist to have an identity crisis and work out who they are.

My short film relates to the production brief because it doesn't have any drugs or alcohol/self-harm - suicide/graphic. Also, it will appeal to the target which is people between 15 and 18.

Outline

The outline is the expanded narrative development of your concept. It is like a short story, detailing the narrative flow of your film. You may want to mention particularly important shots – but avoid going into too much detail. The narrative is the most important thing.

(1) As Grayson walked to school he put on his headphones to relax. He didn't really like school but He's always loved music. It helped him to escape and he was very very good at producing it. Grayson recently lost his mum and is struggling with that. Grayson has flashbacks to a family trip with his mother which was the last trips

Flashback of Grayson and his mother walking on a beach

This was the first day of school since he lost his mum. The first subject that he had was music. He was struggling and he didn't want to be the kid who just lost his mother and for people to feel sorry. As he walked into music class he felt the whole class staring at him. When someone came up to him and said,

"I am sorry to hear about your mother."

"Thank you," said Grayson

The teacher then started playing music Grayson and started to have another flashback that reminded him of another trip that him and his mother had.

At the end of the listen, Mrs Morgan, his music teacher called him over and said

"I am so sorry to hear about your mum when I lost my dad when I was 20 It helped me to write a song about him to remember all the good memories I had with him. I would recommend writing a song as well as it could help you get out your feelings."

Something clicked and Grayson's head when he heard that. When he got home from school he stayed up all night writing a song about her. He remembered all the good times that he had with her and all the things that she'd like to say. Once he finished the song he smiled the first time you smiled in months. When he got to school to show the song to his teacher that he composed she smiled and a tear ran down her face.

Convention 1: - Music – pop / indy   **(3)**

How this convention will be used in my Coming-of-Age film.
Music will be used by setting the scene in the short film like when Grayson will put on his headphones to escape from the real world and from his problems. This will also show how much Grayson likes music. It also will be used throughout this short film.   **(4)**

What is the intended effect of this convention on my target audience?
The reason why I'm using music is that I think that most teenagers nowadays really enjoy listening to music and music is a big part of our culture. Also, they can relate to this by putting on music when they don't want to talk to anyone or when they've had a bad day. Music was something that linked him to his mum, and as a teenager, he chose to write a song that was in the style teens like.   **(5)**

Convention 2: Typical settings of school, teen bedrooms, shopping centres

How this convention will be used in my Coming-of-Age:

④ This will be used in my coming of age film by having most scenes at school but some at home. It will also be used when Grayson is walking to school. He will walk through a nice park with trees and things to school.

What is the intended effect of this convention on my target audience:

⑤ The intent of using this Convention on the target audience is to set the scene to show that Grayson is young to show that this is a coming-of-age story where he is going to start to grow up into being an adult. Coming of age stories often happen in schools because that's where young people learn, which helps them grow up.

④ **Convention 3 : -** Narrative themes of relationships, home life, illness / death, friendship.

How this convention will be used in my Coming-of-Age :
This will be used when Grayson's mother dies in the short film due to illness. It will not be clear what that illness was or how she died though because it is a short film of only three minutes. He will be struggling with it throughout the whole film. Grayson will be portrayed as lonely and alone because he is struggling, His dad isn't in the story, leaving the audience to wonder where he is?

What is the intended effect of this convention on my target audience:
⑤ This will be used on the target audiences to show how different people cope with different things like death and how about overcome that. Grayson will grow up a little bit because of the challenge. I'll use different camera shots to show how he changes in a short time (maybe looking older once he's written the song?)

Convention 4:- - Bright/cheerful colours used in a range of light tones, very little black used – high-key lighting (little contrast within the shot)
④ This convention will be used in my coming of age short film because when Grayson is having flashbacks, the colours will be bright and cheerful to show that Grayson is very happy and when it cuts back to real life the colours will be dark and Grim. This will be used to show that Grayson is sad, depressed and in mourning. Towards the end it will become brighter again.

⑤ **What is the intended effect of this convention on my target audience?**
The intent of using this is to show when people lose someone they get a dark shadow over them and when they have flashbacks to them they remember all the good times.

ACT 1

Grayson will be walking through a forest to school. He will have his headphones on with the camera facing him.
You are seeing the eyes from Grayson's perspective. He recently had lost his mother so he is sad and struggling with that.
The catalyst will be shown with flashbacks throughout the film to show all the memories that he had with his mum
The colour filter of the first scene with a dark colour and not a lot of colours but when he has flash-back the colour will be bright and colourful. ⑥

## ACT 3

1. How does all of this resolve? What is the "happily ever after" (or not)?
   Yes and No. Yes It helps him with all his emotions to write the song but no because it doesn't bring his mum back.
2. Make a statement about either the pace, the soundtrack, or something visually distinctive you will use in this act or in the credits (eg a prop, a colour filter, or an interesting shot type - not a midshot).
   The colour filter will be bright and colourful so it shows that he is starting to get happier again.

2.5 production log- changes
I'm not using a forest anymore because the lighting in the bush isn't going to work very well at all. I tried to do some test shots before filming and everything just looked too green and dark. Grayson is supposed to be in the rain and even without it being a cloudy, raining day it was just too dark. So I have changed it to a street and alleyway. ⑦
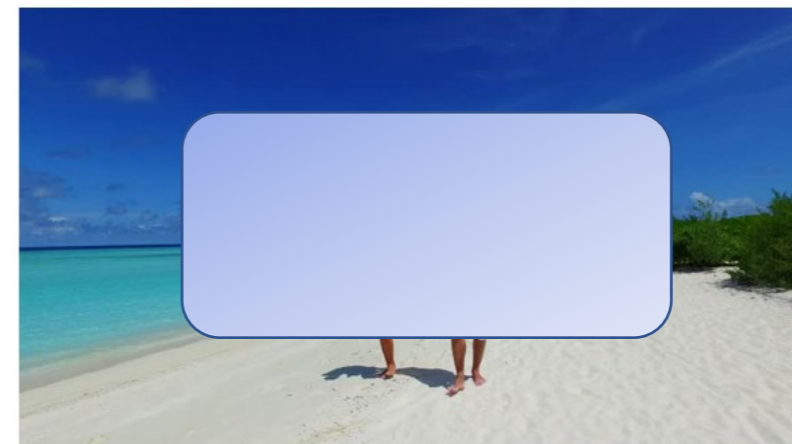
This shot will be used when Grayson and his mum are on their holiday and them walking down the beach (Not holding hands). This will be bright with high exposure to show that he is happy. ④

2.5 production log- changes

Grayson was going to walk on a beach with his mum on holiday in the flashback, but I have decided to use a city street instead. This means we can film in Wellington – during the weekend and get the city feeling vibe. I will film in Cuba Street as its really colourful there and it will look busy.

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2.5 production log- changes

I've changed the flashback scenes again and changed my script because I want the rain to link the two first scenes. I realised that the bright busy street wouldn't work well because there's too many people and we didn't want them in the film. So we went to Lambton quay to film where it was quieter because it was raining.

Actor Name:

Location 1 -

Description of location :
This is the Colonial Knob Walkway in Porirua. This is a walkway with lots of trees and a beautiful atmosphere.

PROS of the location :
Good atmosphere
Beautiful
Has a walkway to shoot the video
Lots of trees
A Forest

CONS of the location :
Low light
People on the walkway

Contact details: *(cell phone number, email a)*
Character role considered: Mother

PROS of the actor for this role:
- Right Age
- Okay at acting
- Good height
- Available

CONS of the actor for this role:
- Lives in

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Prop / Wardrobe item	To be used?	Source?
- School Bag	Will be used when Grayson's at school	I'll be able to ask someone to use their school bags at school or I could just use mine
- Computer	Will be used when Grayson's at home typing the song on his computer	I could ask to borrow one from the library for a short period of time
- Headphone	Will be used when Grayson's is on his	I have a pair of headphones what

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Practicality Study
Practicalities: Identify potential issues that could occur during the shooting/production of your short film, then explain what you would do to mitigate/reduce the impact of these things occurring.
Potential Issue #1: BEING IN LOCKDOWN AND UNABLE TO LEAVE THE HOUSE
Action response: If this Continues to happen I would have to postpone the filming of the short film to a later date maybe in a few months time where hopefully we will be able to go out and film at school or at other places
Potential Issue #2: Someone gets sick
Action response: Try and find a replacement for them as soon as possible If not try and film another scene where they are not needed.
Potential Issue #3: The weather is not as I expected or not as I want
Action response: Try and film another scene which involves been inside so I'm able to get that part done Or try and do another scene

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Week 3 (Term 2 – W3)	Go to Colonial Knob Walkway To film The Forest scene		Film The exteriors scenes at school	Film The exterior scenes at school	Film The exterior scenes at school	Film The exteriors scenes at school	Film The exterior scenes at school -ALL OUTSIDE SCENES SHOULD BE DONE
Week 4 (Term 2 –	Look over the exterior scenes to make sure all the shots are how I like them	Look over the exterior scenes to make sure all the shots are how I like them	Film the interior scenes at school	Film the interior scenes at school	Film the interior scenes at school	Film the bedroom scene with computer	Film the interior scenes at school ALL THE INTERIOR SCENES SHOULD BE DONE

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Feasibility study #1:

I plan to have a shot where Grayson walks into a full classroom with the student and then the whole class turns their head and stares at him at the same time

Process to create:
I need quite a few people in this scene for the class. I don't need too many people when the students turn their head and looked at him.

    A. Just do a scene where there are only 5 people in the class what the audience see. To show that there are more people in the class I could do some voice over with people chatty quietly and as soon as he walks into the class the chatting stops and the five people look at him.

    B. Ask some people to volunteer to be in the short film to represent the music maybe I could talk to one of my teachers to do a quick scene with the students at the start of the lesson. If Grayson can't be there then I could work around that by only showing the students then edit him in later.

Overall feasibility:

These are both all good ideas but I think A. would be the best as it would be easier to do. We could have a few cameras in position to try and get more shots and different angles. This could be an establishing shot of the group, a long shot of Grayson (walking in), close up of his face when the talking stops. Mid shots of the group and maybe a few closeups on their individual faces. We'd need to make sue the cameras weren't in any of the other shots if we're using different camera positions.

Feasibility study #2:

I plan to have a shot where Grayson is Walking Through A Forest/walkway to the school when it starts to rain. For this, I would need there to be rain to shoot this part of the short film.

The process to create:
I would need to go to the forest when it's raining. I would also have to keep the camera equipment dry so it doesn't get wet

    A. Go to the forest when it is cloudy but no rain. After I've shot the scene then I could put water sound effects over the scene to show that it is raining. This will ensure that the camera equipment doesn't get wet because there are lots of trees around you might not even be able to see the rain in the first place.

    B. Look at the weather forecast to see when it's raining. Plan ahead to go on that day when the weather looks like it's going to rain. To make sure that the camera equipment doesn't get wet I could put a plastic bag over it or worse comes to worst then I could use my phone as it's water-resistant

Overall feasibility:
I think b would be the best thing for this as I think the outcome would be a lot better and it would look more realistic. I didn't end up filming this scene as it was too unsafe to film it. I checked out the location and we needed lights because with the trees it was too dark. If it had been rainy and cloudy and it would have been even more dark, so lights were needed. We filmed him walking down the street instead.

The Lonely Boy' - Legalities Statement - ▓▓▓▓▓▓

1. No copyrighted material will be used in the creation of the 'The Lonely Boy' short film.

2. A release will be obtained for all actors participating in the 'The Lonely Boy' short film, and for all locations used.

3. No money will be made from the creation of the 'The Lonely Boy' short film.

FADE IN:

EXT - FOREST - DAY

GRAYSON is walking to school in a forest. He could hear the sound of the wind blowing and the rain hitting the ground.

As Grayson was walking through the forest he soon passed a graveyard. He turned his head and looked at it. He then turned his head away and began to walk faster.

As he was walking through the forest he could hear the rain, which reminded him of a trip that him and his Mum went on.

EXT - City -FLASHBACK

Grayson has a flashback to him and his mother walking through a city. It was raining so there were not many people around.

                  MUM

           Gray This city is so
           beautiful even on a
           rainy day. It's so

FADE IN:

I EXT - STREET - DAY

GRAYSON is walking to school in an alleyway. He sees the trees blowing in the wind and the rain hitting the ground.

As GRAYSON is walking along the street he passes his mum's best friend's house. He turns his head and looks at it. He slumps, looks away and begins to walk faster.

It starts raining more heavily, music is playing through his headphones, and a song comes on that was a favourite of his and his mum's that they listened to whilst on a trip together.

II EXT - City -FLASHBACK

Grayson and MUM are walking through a busy city. It is raining and the streets are fairly quiet. GRAYSON is wearing headphones with the song playing from Scene I. MUM pulls off his headphones and the music from the song is audible in the quiet street.

                  MUM

           Gray. This city is so
           beautiful even on a
           rainy day. It's so
           different from home
           and it's a lot bigger.

                GRAYSON
          I know MUM, it's so
          Beautiful. I think,
          the rain makes it
          look even better

                  MUM
           I think so too Gray