

Pitch a Movie! - In-Class Work

Films often deal with life and death situations. When writers and directors put characters into these extreme situations, they are able to reveal much about their characters to the audience. The way that fictional characters react to life and death situations often also says something about human behavior on a larger scale... and it makes for an exciting plot.

What I want you to do is this: Get into groups of 2-3 students and develop a movie plot that centers around a life and death situation. Prepare to convince others that your movie idea is a good one by outlining the plot of the movie, compiling a cast of characters, and describing where it will be filmed (you have an unlimited budget). You can draw this out in a storyboard with text and images, or you may write out your ideas in paragraphs.

Finally, you will present your ideas to the class as you might present them to a film-studio president. Be prepared to answer this question: Why did you put your characters in this life and death situation? Meaning, what did you hope to reveal about your characters or about humanity by putting your characters into this life and death situation?

