Ewrt 1A

J. Pesano

Critical Reading of Student Essay

Directions: Examine the student essay “Caution: Annoying Moviegoers on the Loose” using the following questions.

1. How is the essay formatted? Does it look accurate from your knowledge of English paper specifications?
2. Examine the title. Is it effective in drawing the reader in? Does it give a clear indication of the one and content of the paper?
3. Does the essay have an effective introduction? Does it provide enough background information to attract the reader? What are some other effective ways to create an introduction?
4. Is there a clear and narrow thesis stating the position of the paper in the introduction? Underline the thesis. What elements should a thesis have?
5. Does each paragraph have a topic sentence that directly supports the thesis? Underline each topic sentence. What should a topic sentence do in a paragraph?
6. Does each supporting body paragraph contain information that directly supports the topic sentence? Give examples.
7. Are there enough examples which are explained clearly with lots of detail? Give examples of great detail.
8. Are there logical transitions between paragraphs and between sentences? What is a transition? How and why is it effective?
9. Is there sufficient critical thinking?
	1. Does the essay explore a topic in a unique way?
	2. Is the information insightful, looking beyond the obvious?
	3. Is there awareness of the target audience?
10. Does the conclusion effectively finish the essay? What are some other effective ways of finishing an essay?
11. Examine the grammar. Does it use language effectively and creatively?
12. Write a final summarizing sentence or two of the strengths and weaknesses of the essay.

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EWRT 1A

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Caution: Annoying Movie Goers on the Loose

 Throwing inanimate objects, such as coins, at the back of the heads at a movie theater has now become a popular sport among adolescents; knowledge that I quickly acquired when an ordinary penny traveled at super speeds and pegged the back of my skull. Although I was quite tempted to harness the bright coppered coin in such a way that Lincoln’s face would be neatly imprinted on to the forehead of its original owner, I had to remind myself that the giggling buffoon who had flung the coin, had fallen victim to the middle child syndrome; in which, he was merely trying to get the attention that he failed to receive from his parents. Indeed, this populous breed of immature moviegoers is pervasive, but it is the species of theatergoers who are completely uninformed of their vexatious behavior that is rapidly poisoning the movie theater experience. These oblivious creatures come in three different forms and in all shapes and sizes. For instance, there is “The Dress to Depress” crowd, “The Full Platter and Bladder Combo” group, and last but not least, “The Fab Blab” crew.

 The first classification of pestering moviegoers, “The Dress to Depress” crowd, most commonly travels in large cult-like formations, adorned with homemade costumes from an epic film to bring, for example, the magic of the cinnamon buns that are suctioned to the sides of Princess Leia’s head, or the raggedy towel cloak and hairy hobbit feet of Frodo and Sam, to life. However, it seems as if these enthusiasts are incapable of understanding that their bulky Darth Vader helmets can get in the way of the viewing pleasure of the person sitting behind them. Although I have yet to encounter a *Star War’s* character when watching the final installment of *The Lord of the Rings*, I did come across a small, but prominent figure. After securing a desirable seat in the theater, I had looked up and found, to my horror, a cone-shaped sorcerer’s hat, which seemed to be hovering right above the rim of the seat in front of me. So I quietly crept over the seat and discovered a cherubic, three-foot Gandalf impersonator, with its pointy hat made up of stars and crescent moons, dangling his feet in excitement. In fact, this little boy’s exuberance was not only evident by the melted chocolate smeared over his smiling face, but also by the upside down ice cream cone on his head that he freely swayed from side to side. As a result, my head swung back and forth in a pendulum manner; leaving me with a sore neck and slight dizziness afterwards. Thus, it goes to show that these festive fans are in their own little fantasy world and are truly unaware of their obtrusive outfits that often cause mental exhaustion to those situated behind them.

 Although not as creatively irritating as the previous crowd mentioned, “The Full Platter and Bladder Combo” group hungers to annoy others with their extreme concession snacking habits and frequent urination ability. Surely, you have all seen them with the three hot dogs in between their fingers, the licorice ropes around their neck, the buckets of buttery popcorn under their arms, the jumbo size refreshments help in a tray in one hand, and the boxes of Milk Duds clenched between their teeth. But after they have completed the incessant slow chomping of popcorn and the harsh slurping of an ice-ridden drink, they must leave their seats, once again, in order to make a pilgrimage to the concession stand, or pay homage to the restroom. However, it always seems as though they must pass right by when there is some climactic part in the film that is nearly approaching. As a result, you must dodge their silhouettes like bullets, so that you do not miss a moment of the movie. Although the most frustrating aspect about these compulsive munchers is that they obviously do not care about the movie, but have to peeve those who are by getting up and blocking the view at a critical point in the film. Not only are they capable of snatching away an important part of the movie from you, but they also have the power to trip on your foot, step on it, or even worse, fall on you since they are probably in dire need to make it to the restroom. Therefore, these disaster-prone professionals can be a real danger to your movie experience since they have the capacity to physically hurt you and govern which parts of the film that they want to see.

 Unlike all of its other counterparts, “The Fab Blab” mongers suffer from a runny case of verbal diarrhea. This includes those who are lost and possibly hard of hearing and ask to repeat certain dialogue, as well as those who must share their uncertainty of what is going to happen next. A prime example would be when my father explains the movie to my little brother, and in the midst of doing so, also gives the rows behind and in front of us an unappreciated synopsis. Also in this category, belong those who randomly decide that now is a good time to talk about the root canal they had undergone a few days ago, or those who came to enjoy the air-conditioning while yapping away on their cell phones. Amazingly, despite the numerous reminders that flash upon the screen to turn off cell phones and any other beeping, talking, or thinking electronics, these devices still remain on. Not only is the continuous melody of a cell phone ringer disruptive to those of us who are not as important, but it is even more unnerving when a person takes the call and does not even make the effort to whisper. But even when not on a cell phone, people invoke the most irrelevant of conversations during the movie. And as much as you try to concentrate on the movie, you are constantly nagged by the ongoing jabber in the background, like a fly buzzing near your ear. So usually when this happens, you anonymously shush them, and all of a sudden you can actually hear the dialogue in the movie again; it is a miracle. But after thirty seconds or so, the yammering begins, yet again. As a result, the suppressing technique was futile, and now the movie made less sense than before. However, by asking your friend next to you what just happened, you will become another fab blabber. In general, this categorization of irksome moviegoers is the most annoying of them all.

 So what can we make of this irritating phenomenon that is ruining the big screen experience for all of us? Perhaps it is a sign that society today has lost all sense of polite behavior in its inability to have any compassion for the people sitting in the theaters around them. Maybe social media like Facebook and Twitter have created a world where people have no idea about proper etiquette in a real social setting. But thanks to these three offensive groups, I think from now on I will be renting my local blockbuster from Netflix and actually be able to enjoy film watching again in the controlled comfort of my own home.