

PLANNING SHEET

MULAN COMPARATIVE ESSAY

Introduction:

- Hook – get the reader’s attention with a quote, statistic, rhetorical question etc
- Background information – introduce the two things you are comparing
- Thesis statement – clearly state whether your essay will focus on **similarities**, **differences**, or **both**, and briefly list your **3 main points** of comparison.

Body paragraphs (3):

P – POINT: A key similarity or difference in the film techniques used

E – EXAMPLE: a technique (e.g. costume, shot, sound/music) used in FILM 1

E – EXPLANATION: how this technique portrays Chinese culture in FILM 1

E – EXAMPLE: how the same technique is used in FILM 2

E – EXPLANATION: how this technique portrays Chinese culture FILM 2 and how this compares or contrasts to FILM 1

L – LINK: relate this back to your thesis (main idea – are the two films basically similar or different?) or link to your next point of comparison

Conclusion:

- Re-state your thesis – mostly similarities, mostly differences, or a mix of both?
- Restate your 3 main points of comparison
- Finish with a takeaway message or thought about one of the general themes/ideas discussed in your essay e.g. Chinese culture, the legend of Mulan, Disney, film techniques, cartoons vs live action. Make sure it is phrased as objective (fact not opinion).

5-Paragraph Essay Structure

Introduction:

Thesis Statement:

Body Paragraph 1:

Body Paragraph 2:

Body Paragraph 3:

Conclusion: