WRITING A DESCRIPTION (of a film clip)
Instructor: Joseph Cameron

1. Brief Description of in-class writing exercise:
I showed a film clip in class and then we discussed the visual style of the clip. I then asked them to write a description of one segment of the clip or an encapsulation of the essence of the clip. We then discussed the descriptions offering strengths and areas for improvement.

2. Context for the exercise:
The exercise was called, "writing with clarity." For the session, I asked them to read a chapter from a film textbook on mise-en-scene.

3. Goal(s) of the exercise:
• To get students to notice the visual details of a film
• To describe those details clearly and vividly

4. Common results of the exercise:
Many descriptions focused on action despite the discussion. Some achieved the goals I set forth.

5. Student responses to the exercise:
Since this was the second class session, students were afraid to offer their writing for class consideration.