

Film Studies 20 things to (re)learn over Xmas

1. Which critic of Weimar cinema suggested that the films of the era depicted a nation 'wavering between tyranny and chaos' and what does this mean?
2. What did the contemporary critic Anton Kaes mean when he called the key Weimar films, 'shell-shock cinema'?



3. What do these words mean: bourgeois, proletariat, tsarist, typage?
4. What was the Schufftan process and where was it used?
5. What is the Kuleshov effect and how is it done?
6. Which Weimar cinema director experimented with this 'unchained camera' (a name given by the critic Lotte Eisner) and what does this actually mean?
7. Playful use of film as a medium, frequent self reference, documentary focus on form as well as subject matter – which film does this describe?
8. What are Eisenstein's five types of montage and what do they mean? Examples please.
9. Give examples of Eisenstein's use of inflammatory images.
10. What was the Weimar 'street film' and what made the genre different to/consistent with the expressionist films? Give examples.
11. What contemporary art form was a strong influence on Soviet cinema of the 1920s?
12. What were some of the themes and styles of the expressionist art movement that strongly influenced Weimar cinema?
13. Stripes, angles and geometric forms sliced from the stark contrasts between light and shadow – give examples of any of these in Eisenstein's films.
14. Who was Vera Baranovskaya and what is significant about her in 1920s cinema?

15. What is particularly characteristic about the performance style in Fritz Lang's *Metropolis*?

16. What was 'Kino Pravda', who used the phrase and what are some of its characteristics as a style?

17. Give examples of how somnambulism is shown in Weimar films **other than** *The Cabinet of Dr Caligari*.

18. What is a doppelganger and why is it such a recurring theme in Weimar cinema?

19. What is particularly characteristic about the Soviet film *The Fall of the Romanov Dynasty*?

20. What dramatic purpose is served by the deliberately non-naturalistic set of *The Cabinet of Dr Caligari*?

