Shawshank Redemption

viewing questions part 1

1. Andy is described as “icy and remorseless.” How is the audience positioned to feel about him?

2. What film techniques are used to depict the prison and what do they symbolise?

*I. Colour pallet*

*II. Camera shot*

*III. Camera angle*

3. How do the seasoned inmates react to the new arrivals?

4. A central theme of this film is the presence of power. How do the warden and guards assert their dominance over the new arrivals?

5. How are the new arrivals further humiliated and demeaned?

6. What does the ‘fishing’ metaphor establish?

7. The inmates laugh and cheer when one of the new arrivals breaks down. How and why does their reaction change?

8. What is hopeful about Brooks’ quote, “I’m gonna look after him until he’s big enough to fly”?

9. Why do the prisoners get upset when Andy asks for the name of the deceased prisoner?

10. How does Red’s narration provide the audience with more insight concerning his opinion of Andy?

11. What fuels the corruption in the prison system?

12. What harsh realities and acts of violence does Andy endure?

13. How do Red and Andy’s gang get to work outside?

14. What is important about the dialogue between Andy and Captain Hadley on the rooftop?

15. How is freedom symbolised throughout the rooftop scene?

16. Why is Red the “only guilty man in Shawshank”?

17. How are camera angles used to represent the relationship between Andy and Bogs?