

Instructions:

- *Write all of the questions in your notebook.*
- *Then choose ONE of the questions, and write an essay about it.*
- *Be sure to use evidence from the film.*
- *One of these will be your essay for the in-class test.*
- *You may also write about this on the midterm exam.*
- *You will not be able to use notes or a computer to write this essay.*

The Artist
(2011, directed by Michel Hazanavicius)

Six Essay Topics:

1. How is *The Artist* both an example of modern filmmaking, and a tribute to films from the silent era?
2. How does *The Artist* use sound and cinematography (black and white, as well as shots, transitions, etc.) to create a compelling story?
3. *The Artist* imitates the style of the early silent cinema in order to tell a story about silent cinema. What is that story, and why is it important?
4. How is *The Artist* a love story?
5. How do the characters help develop the theme of *The Artist*?
6. How is *The Artist* an example of parody (or a *pastiche*) of silent film at the same time as a tribute to silent film?