Viewing Log: Screenplay

Assignment: Find and watch two short films (I suggest finding films similar in genre, theme, tone as the one you are trying to write). As you view the films, note the following screenplay elements for EACH film. Please describe when in the films the following things occur. Also, note how you know that this event has occurred. You are analyzing these films from the perspective of a screenwriter.

Film Title: ___________________  Director: ___________________  Run time: __________

Act 1:  Main character is introduced

Other characters

Main setting of the story

Genre

Main problem of the story

Catalyst scene which propels the main character into action.

Define the goals the main character must reach

Act 2:  Progression and complications

Turning point in the story

Raising the stakes

Escalating Conflict

Subplots (if any…remember, this is a short film)

Act 3:  Raise stakes again

Second major turning point

Momentum builds

Climax

Resolution

General comments/questions

Once again, you are doing this analysis TWICE, i.e. once for each short film. There are many resources for short films online; I strongly recommend https://vimeo.com/channels/shortoftheweek. Be wary of content…and good luck!