



YOUNG GUNS(1988)

Directed by: Christopher Cain

Written By: John Fusco

Starring: Emilio Estevez, Kiefer Sutherland, Lou Diamond Phillips, Charlie Sheen

Assignment:

Are films based on historical events true to history, or do film makers often take liberties to ensure that cinematic needs are met first? Having watched John Fusco's *Young Guns*, you are to now compose a five paragraph essay that clearly outlines significant differences between the film's real life historical characters and those that were portrayed on screen. Were William H. "Billy the Kid" Bonney, John Tunstall, Josiah Gordon 'Doc' Scurlock, Richard "Dick" Brewer, Charles "Charley" Bowdre and others depicted accurately, or did Fusco get it wrong? If liberties were taken, why do you think they were made and do you feel that the changes were needed? You can discuss both characters and/or events. If you feel that Fusco was accurate in his depiction of Billy the Kid and the happenings at Lincoln County, then by all means compose an essay that supports this argument in stead.

1. Start with a well written opening paragraph that outlines the three characters and/or events you wish to discuss.
2. The following three paragraphs (body paragraphs) should discuss your key points, with one character/ event being discussed separately in each paragraph.
3. Finish with a conclusion paragraph, summing up all you have said in a concise manner.

You may use either library resources (books) or the internet to research the true history behind Billy the Kid and the adventures he had . Your paper must be handed in with a bibliography which outlines where all the information came from (book or website), and formal citing within the paper must also be included (endnotes or footnotes). A paper that is submitted without these will be read and assessed but not formally graded. **YOU MUST STATE YOUR SOURCES!**

All papers must be:

1. **typed**
2. **double spaced**
3. **arial or times new roman font**
4. **12 pt. text size**
5. **Include a properly formatted title page with interesting title**
6. **Approximately 3-5 pages in length**
7. **DUE:**

You will investigate each of the following characters and events and determine whether or not the film Young Guns accurately depicted them. Much of your rough work can be done on the following sheets. These are to be stapled to your final paper and submitted for evaluation. You must take all of the information you find and assemble it in an organized fashion. Feel free to use the format outlined on these sheets as a basis for your good copy. Please ensure the following:

1. typed
2. arial or times new roman font
3. 12 pt. text size
4. why not include images/ historical photographs as well?
5. Include a properly formatted title page with interesting title
6. You must investigate the following:

William H. Bonney "Billy the Kid"	Richard "Dick" Brewer	"Dirty" Steve Stephens	John Tunstall
Charles "Charley" Bowdre	Pat Garrett	"Buckshot" Roberts and the gun fight he had with Billy's gang.	Gunfight at gunfight at Alex McSween's

EVENT/ CHARACTER	FACT/ FICTION
FILM DEPICTION Thoroughly discuss how the character and events were <u>depicted in the film</u> .	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Event: Describe the event in detail. How did it come to pass, how important was the event to the overall telling of the story? - Character: Who portrayed the character? Along with character traits, discuss the actions and words of the character. How would you describe the character after seeing the film? 	
HISTORICAL DETAILS/ EVIDENCE Thoroughly discuss the <u>historical truths</u> behind the people and events depicted in the film.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Event: locate as much information about the event as you can and describe how it took place as recorded by history. Provide historical drawing or images of the event if available. - Character: Find out as much as you can about the true lives of the individuals being studied. State all you can about their personalities and about key happenings in their lives. Were the true actions and words of these people accurately shown in the film? 	
SITE RESEARCH SOURCE(S) Clearly state the books and/or websites you used to find the needed information.	