

Miss Congeniality: The Title Sequence

definition: key term

connect definition to
topic: topic sentence

first main point
fact
explanation

second main point
fact
explanation

third main point
explanation

conclusion: what
meaning the points
add up to

notice: concluding
sentence has same
main idea as the topic
sentence but
expressed differently
and adds expanded
ideas from body
sentences

Almost every movie has a title sequence, which occurs at the beginning. While the acting, directing, and production credits (or titles) are superimposed on the screen, an opening scene establishes the main characters, the setting, the mood, or the main issues.

In the title sequence of *Miss Congeniality*, the director introduces the main character and shows that she is a hero.

As the scene opens, the camera closes in on a young girl sitting alone on a bench in a park. She is reading a book and, as the camera moves closer, we see that she is wearing glasses. So far, the director has shown that the little girl is different because she is not playing with the other children. She also is a person who is interested in learning and who is shown to be smart by her wearing glasses.

The director shows the girl's heroic traits by having her notice a small boy being bullied. She forces the bully to leave the smaller boy alone by using some quick fighting techniques.

The boy is not grateful, however. He feels he has been shown as a weakling because he had to be rescued by a girl. His response shows that Gracie does not understand boys, so there is an aspect of her character that needs to develop.

The title sequence ends with a matched cut on the girl's glasses to show that the adult in the rest of the movie is the same person as the young girl. In the title sequence, the director shows scenes from Gracie's childhood to establish that she has always had the characteristics of a hero, and that she has qualities that need to be developed through completing a heroic quest.

