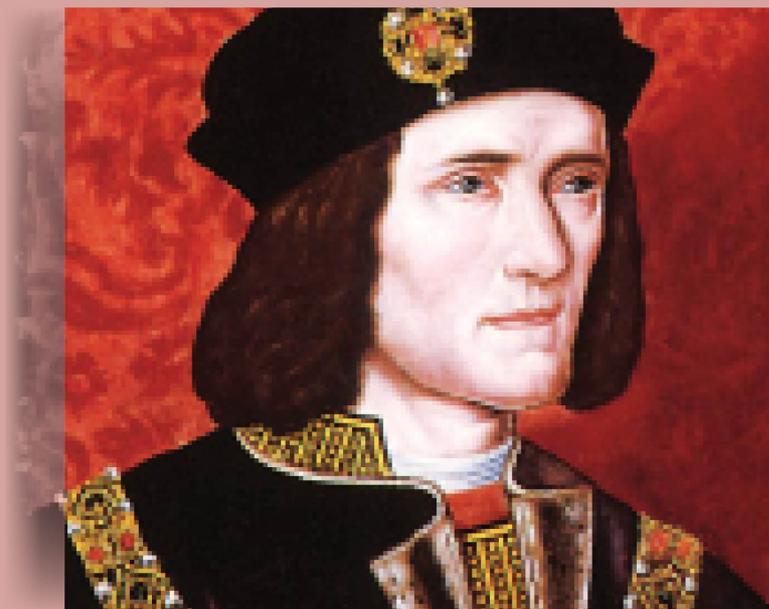


Exploring Connections Between
Al Pacino's *Looking for Richard* and
William Shakespeare's *King Richard III*:
a student work ebook



Lessons and exercise based on a comparative study of *Looking for Richard* by Al Pacino and *King Richard III* by William Shakespeare, including analysis of context, content, key ideas and intertextual connections

SHELLEY MCNAMARA

Quiller
www.quiller.com.au

Exploring Connections Between
Al Pacino's
Looking for Richard and
William Shakespeare's
King Richard III:
a student work ebook

Shelley McNamara

Qwiller

www.qwiller.com.au

First published 2018 by QWILLER

Visit our website at www.qwiller.com.au

Copyright © Shelley McNamara 2018

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner, except under conditions described in the Copyright Act 1968 of Australia (the Act) and subsequent amendments and conditions described in the Terms of Use on www.qwiller.com.au. Exception also applies to license agreements for bi-annual subscribers. See the website for details. All enquiries are to be made to the publisher at the address above.

A licence must be obtained and a remuneration notice must be given to a Copyright Agency Limited (CAL) if educational institutions wish to copy any part of this work ebook for educational purposes under the Act. Then, a maximum of 10% of this work ebook is allowed to be copied by any educational institution for its educational purposes. Licence restrictions must be adhered to. For details of the CAL licence contact: Copyright Agency Limited, Level 15, 233 Castlereagh Street, Sydney, NSW 2000. Telephone: (02) 9394 7600. Facsimile: (02) 9394 7601.

Email: info@copyright.com.au

Cataloguing data

Author: Shelley McNamara

ISBN: 978-1-925624-97-7

Title: *Exploring Connections Between Al Pacino's Looking for Richard and William Shakespeare's King Richard III: a student work ebook* (for all state-based curriculums for the secondary senior Australian Curriculum: English Literature)

Publisher: Shelley McNamara

Editor: Shelley McNamara

Image: Richard III

http://www.calend.ru/img/content_events/i3/3807.jpg

Cover design: Toby Andrews www.lilypad.com.au

Typeset in Avenir Next 10 pt and Tekton Pro Bold Cond 10 pt

Acknowledgements

Thank you to John Ryan at Southern Cross Distance Education Centre for his guidance and advice whilst creating this education resource.

This resource has been adapted from *Comparative Study of Looking for Richard and King Richard III: a student work ebook*, which was created for the NSW Stage 6 English Syllabus, pre-2018.

Table of Contents.....	5
Welcome.....	7
Using this work ebook	7
The tools you can use	7
Resources.....	7
Part 1: Introduction to key concepts and ideas.....	9
Approaching a comparative study	9
Considering context in a comparative study	10
How do texts converse?.....	12
How textual conversations are shown: the importance of intertextuality.....	12
Interpreting intertextuality in film.....	15
Essays about <i>King Richard III</i> and <i>Looking for Richard</i>	16
Reading Richard III as a villain.....	18
Historical accuracy of the play.....	19
Part 2: Purpose, audience, context and ideas in <i>Looking for Richard</i>.....	21
Introducing <i>Looking for Richard</i>	21
Key questions on <i>Looking for Richard</i>	22
Personal context of composer	23
Purpose and audience of the film.....	25
Form and purpose: Vox pops.....	26
Understanding cultural context.....	27
Social and historical contexts of <i>King Richard III</i>	29
Understanding the literary context of the film.....	31
Values and attitudes in the film.....	33
Concepts in the film.....	35
Part 3: Form and structure, content and language in <i>Looking for Richard</i>	39
Form and structure	39
Style of documentary.....	39
Critics of Pacino's style	41
Content	41
Language forms and features	48
Language of the film	49
Language in key scenes.....	50
Part 4: Purpose, audience and contexts in <i>King Richard III</i>.....	54
Introducing <i>King Richard III</i>	54
Key questions on <i>King Richard III</i>	54
Who is William Shakespeare?.....	55
Purpose and audience of the play	55
Subverting conventions	57
Cultural context of the play	57
Literary context of the play.....	60
John Bell on Shakespeare	62
Understanding your personal context.....	63
Historical context of the play.....	63

Part 5: Values, attitudes, concepts, form and structure in <i>King Richard III</i>	66
Values and attitudes represented in the play	66
Concepts represented in the play	67
Form and structure of the play	69
Part 6: Content and language in <i>King Richard III</i>	71
Content.....	71
Language forms and features.....	78
Language in key scenes	81
Part 7: Writing a comparative essay	84
Comparing texts	84
Sample essay	87
Breaking down the question	88
Structuring an analytical response	89
Writing an introduction.....	90
Writing body paragraphs.....	91
Writing topic sentences	91
Writing a conclusion.....	93
Planning a Comparative Study essay.....	94
Revising concepts	95

Part 2: Purpose, audience, context and ideas in *Looking for Richard*

Introducing *Looking for Richard*

Let's begin exploring *Looking for Richard* by Al Pacino. The film is structured as a stream-of-consciousness drama documentary released in 1996 that took four years to make. Pacino uses the hand-held camera and random interviews on the street to achieve his purpose of bringing Shakespeare to the general public. The close ups and tilted up camera angles on the faces of the people on the street, showing their reactions to Pacino's questions, shows how important this idea is to the documentary film. Pacino is interested in what people think about Shakespeare in real life.

Looking for Richard trailer



One way to get an idea of what a film will be about it to watch the trailer. The trailer will give you a feel for the audience and purpose of the documentary/drama and the way that the ideas will be presented.



As you watch the trailer, consider what is being said about the following: film making, William Shakespeare as a writer, *King Richard III* as a play and the context of the original play and the time of the film.

See the link below to watch the trailer.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nVgdtcNwIGQ>

Task 2.1: Interpreting the trailer



TIME: 20 MINS

- i. What is the effect of repeating 'Now is the winter of our discontent' and the word 'deformed'?
- ii. What is Al Pacino's mission? What do you think of Pacino's mission? Can you relate to it?
- iii. What is communicated about Shakespeare?
- iv. What is communicated about Richard III?
- v. What is communicated about Pacino?
- vi. What did you notice about the style of documentary/drama? Jot down notes about the type of film techniques used and their effect.