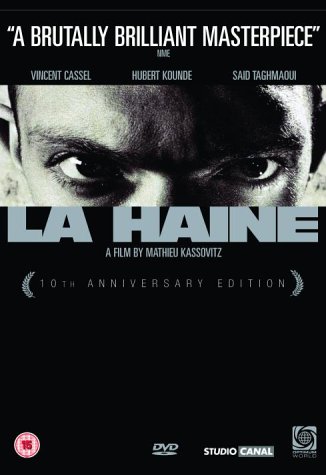
Print and name this booklet for your controlled assessment when it is complete.



**La Haine (1995) Mathieu Kassovitz**

First impressions of the Film and its characters

**Make notes on the following: did you like it and why, did you hate it – why?**

**Write about three scenes that you remember and your impressions of them.**

**Write down your notes on the following.**

Narrative

Themes

Icons (any significant objects that added to the meaning of the film)

**Who are these characters and what did you think of them? Do a character analysis like we did for RWAC and BC. What you think of them? What others think of them? What he says/thinks? What he does.**

Said



Vinz



Hubert



**Close Study Analysis of La Haine**

**Falling metaphor (00:50)**

Can you explain this metaphor of falling and its relevance to the historical context?

**The opening credits and the footage of real life rioting are accompanied by Bob Marley and the Wailers’ song Burnin and Lootin.**

What is the significance of the song and the connection to the historical context?

**Said’s and Vinz’s introduction (5:12)**

Comment on camera movement and mise en scene in the first scene of the film.

Describe Vinz’s room.

What American references are there in these scenes?

What do we learn about the two characters and their background in these scenes?

What does Vinz’s relationship and conversation with his family tell us?

**Hubert’s introduction (10:35)**

What do we find out about Hubert?

**Hubert at home (33:57) Cut out Vinz and Said in the Shops**

Comment on:

His room

His relationship to his family

His actions

**Describe what Hubert sees as he looks out of the window**

What is the relevance of the DJ and where else can we see this relevance in the film?

**Park Scenes (18:55) Shop Scene (23:00)**

Describe the Mise en scene.

**Toilet (48:25)**

What is the relevance of the mirrors shot at the start of this scene?

What is the argument between Vinz and Hubert about?

What point do you think the man in the toilet is trying to make?

**Interrogation (103:25)**

What is the relevance of Vinz in the cinema before this and the connection to this scene?

Comment on the micro and macro elements of this scene.

**On the roof (121:24)**

What is the point of the clock all the way through?

Who does Said see and what does he say?

What does the shot of the tower show?

What is the meaning of Vinz’ statement, “I feel like an ant in intergalactic space”?

**The End (130:30)**

What are your impressions? Describe what you think happened.

Film Narrative

**Below is a list of contextual factors, try to comment on their relevance to the film and how you read it.**

**Social, historical and political Contexts**

**The projects or, les banlieues:**

* **Les banlieues are satellite ‘new towns’ (for which read housing estates for the poor) up to twenty miles out of Paris that almost seem designed to keep the poor out of the middle-class centre of the city**
* **The ‘new town’ in which La Haine was filmed had at the time an official population of 10,000 made up of sixty different nationalities or ethnicities**
* **These are stereotyped in the media as places of urban deprivation crime and drug use.**

**Racism**

* **Immigration was limited by the French government during the economic crisis of the early 1970s.**
* **Kassovitz’ father (who himself fled Hungary in 1956) was the son of a concentration camp survivor.**

**The Police and Racism**

* **There are two main police groups in the film: the neighbourhood plain clothes police and the riot police**
* **Racism (as in the UK) has been seen to be a particular problem in the police force.**
* **There were over 300 deaths in police custody or from police action from 1980 to 1995 when the film was made**

Social and Historical Context

**Below is an article taken from the Guardian newspaper illustrating that this problem is still relevant ten years on.**

**Highlight and annotate it showing its relevance to the film**

**Riots continue in Paris suburbs**   
  
**Staff and agencies  
Wednesday November 2, 2005**   
  
  
French police clash with youths as vehicles are torched in riots at Aulnay-sous-Bois, near Paris. Photograph: Travers/Le Floch/EPA



Violent clashes between police and immigrant groups in the suburbs around Paris have continued for the sixth consecutive night with scores of cars set alight and nearly three dozen people arrested overnight, officials said today.

Police in riot gear fired rubber bullets at advancing gangs of youths in Aulnay-sous-Bois - one of the worst-hit suburbs - where 15 cars were burned. Youths lobbed molotov cocktails at an annex to the town hall and threw stones at the fire station, despite appeals for calm yesterday from the French prime minister, Dominique de Villlepin.

Four people were arrested for throwing stones at police in nearby Bondy where 14 cars were burned, the prefecture said. A fire engulfed a carpet store, but it was not immediately clear whether the blaze was linked to the suburban unrest.

Officials gave an initial count of 69 vehicles destroyed in nine suburbs across the Seine-Saint-Denis region to the north and north-east of Paris. The area, which is home mainly to families of immigrant origin, most from Muslim north Africa, is marked by soaring unemployment and social unrest.

The interior minister, Nicolas Sarkozy, told Europe-1 radio that police detained 34 people overnight. Mr Sarkozy - blamed by many for fanning the violence with uncompromising language and harsh tactics - defended his approach and vowed to restore peace.

The rioting began on Thursday after two teenagers, aged 15 and 17, were fatally electrocuted and a third injured in a power substation. There have been claims, denied by officials, that they where were hiding to escape from police.

Mr Sarkozy caused uproar by calling the rioters "scum" and continued to defend his stance in an interview in today's Le Parisien newspaper in which he said the current policy dealing with poor immigrant communities had failed.

"The reigning order is too often the order of gangs, drugs, traffickers. The neighbourhoods are waiting for firmness but also justice.... and jobs," he told the paper.

An Associated Press news team witnessed confrontations between about 20 police and 40 youths in Aulnay-sous-Bois with police firing tear gas and rubber bullets. Officials said that "small, very mobile gangs" were harassing police as well as setting fire to rubbish bins and vehicles throughout the region.

France-Info radio said some 150 fires were reported in rubbish containers, cars and buildings across Seine-Saint-Denis.

Yesterday, Mr de Villepin met the parents of the three teenagers, promising a full investigation of the deaths and insisting on "the need to restore calm", the prime minister's office said.

Despite that, tension continued to mount after young men torched cars, garbage bins and even a primary school the night before. Scores of cars were reported burned on Monday night in Clichy-sous-Bois, and 13 people were detained.

Youths set two rooms of a primary school in Sevran on fire on Monday along with several cars, the mayor, Stephane Gatignon, said in a statement.

Mr Sarkozy's handling of the situation has been criticised within the conservative government. The equal opportunities minister, Azouz Begag, said he "contests this method of becoming submerged by imprecise, warlike semantics".

For three decades, successive governments have injected funds and launched projects but failed to improve the lives of many marginalised communities in suburban areas.