

Objective

You will create an overview of a Golden Era film star.

Golden Era Stars

For this activity, you will create an overview of a biography of a Golden Era star. Choose a star that was popular and working for a studio between the years of 1930-1945. The star you choose is up to you, but a few suggestions are Judy Garland, Greta Garbo, Lucille Ball, and Audrey Hepburn. Then, do a little research to find a biography of your chosen star. Make sure to read through the biography a few times. Here are a few things to keep in mind as you look for information:

1. "Star power." What attributes made this person a big star?
2. "On screen presence." How did audiences react to this star's performances?
3. "Off-screen persona" - what was important about the star's life outside of his or her profession?
4. "Awards" - did this star win any awards for his/her acting roles?
5. "Staying power." Did this person "last" in the industry, or did they quickly fade from the limelight?

Finally, write a summary of your star's biography. Your summary should be at least one paragraph in length. Include only the highlights from the biography in your summary. Remember to use proper grammar, punctuation, and spelling.

Rubric

Consult the rubric to see how your work will be evaluated:

Name: Golden Era Stars

SCORING RUBRIC With these criteria, the lowest possible score is 0(meets no criteria for evaluation), and the highest is _____(clearly meets all criteria for evaluation).

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION RATING:

The student wrote a minimum of one paragraph.

The student wrote about a star who was working during the years of 1930-1945.

The student summarized only the most important points about the star.

The student used proper grammar, punctuation, and spelling.

32 TOTAL POINTS, DUE: MONDAY, 11/2/20 (Turned in on Teams as a Word Doc)

ADDITIONAL READING MATERIAL:

The stars may never shine as big or as bright as they did during Hollywood's Golden Era. Glitz and glamour, elegance and style--the studios promoted a bevy of stars in the years when the film industry was at its peak. As the studios hired actors and actresses that fit the mold for their specialized production style, certain stars became studio symbols.

In the 1930s, actresses like Vivien Leigh, Greta Garbo, Carole Lombard, and Jean Harlow created over-the-top images of Hollywood glamour. Roles for women of the day called for strong, but feminine, actresses who could hold their own against the likes of Clark Gable, Robert Montgomery, and James Stewart. Male actors of that time had to be stunningly attractive and masculine, or suave and intelligent. Stars, like Johnny Weismuller, Errol Flynn, Mae West and Veronica Lake, created characters whose hairstyles, voices, and/or movements are still recognized today.

In the 1940s, many Hollywood films had a wartime theme, making actors, like Alan Ladd and Van Johnson, household names. Hollywood actresses, like Betty Grable and Rita Hayworth, posed for racy (however modest by today's standards) "pin-up" shots for posters and postcards that became hot commodities for overseas service men. Amazing screen matchups, like Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman in *Casablanca*, diverted the public's attention during the heat of WWII with sizzling romance and entertainment.

In the 1950s, sirens like Marilyn Monroe and Jane Mansfield, complemented the style and class of actresses, like Elizabeth Taylor and Grace Kelly, to bring a different gender of powerful players to the Hollywood studio bargaining tables. Tough gritty actors, like John Wayne and James Dean, were strong box office draws for a broad audience, but the dashing handsome Rock Hudson and Tony Curtis wooed female audiences from coast to coast.

The list of stars from Hollywood's Golden Era is a seemingly endless inventory of talent, charisma, intelligence, beauty, grace, and charm. For every decade in the Golden Era, there are hundreds of stars whose names and faces have been forgotten in favor of the more popular stars, whose films are considered to be as important to American culture as great paintings and architecture, and are therefore considered to be classics.

Creating an Overview: When you read a piece of information, you may be asked to give an overview or summary of it. This involves discussing the main points or

highlights of the text that you read. You should not mention everything in a summary, only the most important information. For example, take a look at the passage below:

Lucille Ball is quite possibly one of the most famous actresses of all time. Born Lucille Desiree Ball on August 6, 1911, she was the child of Desiree and Henry Ball. She starred in numerous films and became famous for her work on "I Love Lucy" in which she starred with her husband, Desi Arnaz. The pair had two children--Lucie and Desi Junior. They divorced on May 4, 1960. Lucille Ball died on April 26, 1989 from cardiac arrest.

If you had to summarize that passage, what might it look like? Remember you should only include the most important information. A summary might look like this:

Lucille Ball was born on August 6, 1911. She did much work as an actress on the big screen. She is possibly most well-known for her role in "I Love Lucy" in which she starred with her husband Desi Arnaz. Lucille Ball died on April 26, 1989, from cardiac arrest.

Notice that the summarized version is shorter than the original. This is because only the most important information is included.