

1.a The Shawshank Redemption follows the story ~~of~~ by, originally from the Steven King novella, of protagonist Andy who is sent to jail for the murder of his wife. The audience watch as Andy overcomes the problems conflict and enigmas he faces and through a skillful use of language and representation, this brings meaning to the text ~~makes~~ contributing to Shawshank's success.

The language used in the Shawshank redemption gives an immediate feel of time ^(1940-1960s) and place from the very beginning ^{and} throughout. The opening title is in an art deco font ^{acting as a technical code}, relevant relating to ~~the~~ the time ^{a cultural code} and is ~~backed~~ in the background

'If I only had you' by Inkspots plays, adding to the relevance and creating a nostalgic feel and giving it immediate meaning. The camera slowly pans in zooms in creating a smooth transition to ~~match~~^{mirror} the song. Another use of cultural codes in the language that give the film meaning[†] is the ^{by establishing an effective set} posters of Rachel Welch, Marilyn Monroe and Rita Hayworth. These act as an ^{effective} cultural code for the passing of time when these men are in prison as well as anchorage to the 1940's-1960's American set-up. -

An effective scene where ~~language~~ language adds to the ~~mean~~ creates meaning in the content is when Andy declares his non-institutionalisation.

by playing \neq Mozart ~~for the men~~.
in the prison. Once the music
begins to play the camera
pans across different areas of
the prison which again smoothly
runs along with the song and
depicted that the whole prison stops
to listen. In the ^{one} room with the
men get ~~out of~~ off of their beds
and walk towards the window.
This the lighting is an effective
technical code here as where
the window is shining is
very bright ~~and~~ the men's faces
whereas on the other half of
the room away from the window,
is in darkness, this symbolises
the hope of being free (in the light)

and the outside being brighter ^{giving it a deeper meaning}.
Another example of trope language creating ~~metaphor~~ meaning in this scene through the symbolism of hope is the high angle shot of the prisoners in the exercise yard. ~~At~~ Not only does this technical ~~code~~ make the prisoners seem venerable and small and trapped but they are all staring upwards at the speaker playing the music. Birds are a symbol of freedom and hope and therefore their silence and awe staring up at the speaker is as if they are looking toward freedom which definitely gives the content meaning. ~~This~~ The prisoners not

only look venerable from the high angle shot but their stillness and upward looking ~~acts~~ makes them seem harmless, not criminals, and humanises them, which connects the audience to the characters more, empathising with them. ~~that~~

Another scene where ~~language~~ language gives the content meaning notable is in the escape scene where the build up of music getting more dramatic and louder mirrors what is happening and makes it more dramatic. Similar to the previous mentioned scene, the lighting in the sewer is very dark but it gets much brighter when he escapes

, representing freedom again, ~~add~~
~~as~~ creating meaning.

b) There are many ~~to~~ interesting representations that have been used in The Shawshank Redemption. The ~~prison itself~~ such as the American dream, gender and ethnicity. The prison itself is effective in ^{representation of} linking in the American dream. The background of the prisoners is not given and this gives the idea that crime is caused by the individual not the social conditions. This represents and carries the American Dream ideology of individual solutions.

to social and institutional issues. This is portrayed through Andy who through hard work and intelligence, ~~escapes~~ better himself, escapes and is free of the institution which in this case is Shawshank prison. This idea is very relevant to the time the film is sent as many people moved to America in hope of 'The American Dream' a better life and more prosperous life.

Another representation relevant to ~~Plus~~ ^{America} the time the film was ~~sent~~ ^{in the film} is the ethnic representations. America was ~~not~~ named the 'melting pot' as many different ethnicities had moved there. The biracial pairing of

This buddy film supports this idea.
~~The~~ However, ~~altho~~ although it was nicknamed this, there in reality there was severe racial tension^{in America} and Red and Andy would be unlikely friends, so ~~Therefore this rep~~ ~~but~~ the lack of racial tension therefore challenges this idea^{of tension} through this representation. ~~On the other hand~~
Although there is no physical ~~Another~~ racial tension, it could be argued that Andy is an ~~educated~~^{intelligent} innocent rich^{white} man whereas Red whom is black, is an ~~uneducated~~^{uneducated} criminal. On the other hand, this could simply be a representation of the ~~in~~^{ineq} inequalities African Americans were facing in 1960s

America as they have less opportunities, of a better quality education, for example.

Another representation used in the Shawshank Redemption is gender. To begin, ^{by selection,} there are no females in ~~the~~ Shawshank. The only female in the film is Andy's treacherous wife in the beginning, immediately representing women as weak and unrespected. The ~~other~~ ^{closest} ^{character} to a female in Shawshank prison is whom they nickname 'Jesus', ~~the~~ who is feminised by his dull, same breasts. Upon the 'Red Fish' entering Shawshank the men guess who ~~let~~ ^{on} who will be

first to "freak" and correct in guessing is 'fat ass' who calls for his 'mummy'. This ~~represent~~ carries on the representation ~~the~~ of females as weak and depicts binary oppositions e.g. hard vs. soft, femininity ~~to~~ ^{the only} vs. masculinity. Other women seen in the film are in the film the men watch and on the movie stars on posters. This objectifies women ~~as~~ representing them as objects of lust. Not only do the posters of Rita Hayworth, Raquel Welch and Marilyn Monroe act as a cultural code for the passing of time, as mentioned, but the changing ~~&~~ representation of the sexuality of women that comes

with it (time).

The Shawshank redemption has gained a large audience. This is due to the fantasy of escaping the oppressions of every day life providing cathartic release. Andy overcoming problems ~~such as~~ conflicts and enigmas appeals to a wide audience as it is relevant to all ages.

The biracial buddy pairing suggests black / white targeting and increases the crossover appeal for audiences.

~~Surprisingly given some of the content~~ (although the film is rated a 17 in America and R15 ~~rating is~~ in UK for violence ^{and rape} being only mentioned

, rather than ~~explicit~~ explicit, which widened the range of audience that could watch. Given some surprisingly, given some of the content, the film has a large appeal to Christians. This is due to the idea and their response to the idea of hope^{a central theme to the film} and bettering yourself, seen through Andy.

This can be seen especially in the escape scene. Andy walks through literal faeces for a long time but keeps going and eventually reaches the light of freedom, coming out the end ~~exit~~, literally with a new life. This is also the anchorage from the tagline 'Fear can hold

you prisoner, hope can set you free' are well as the title wording 'Redemption', attracts the Christian appeal. Due to the nostalgic atmosphere, given meaning by the language, attracts an older audience too as they ~~can~~ have a positive response to this.

In conclusion, the Shawshank Redemption is full of language codes that create an effective atmosphere and set up ~~giving~~ ⁺ creating meaning in the ~~se~~ text. There are several intriguing representations that ^{allow} create a wide range of audience ~~response~~ responses and ^{these all} contribute to Shawshank's success.