

What makes an Excellent Television Pilot?

TV Pilot Episode Comparison

Due Tues. Nov. 28th (3-pages single spaced)

What makes a good TV pilot episode? What story, character and production techniques compel viewers (not just you) to **engage** in a TV series? What makes them **fully commit** (brand loyalty) to multiple seasons? What stimulates them to **binge-watch beyond** a simple desire to escape or to be entertained?

These are important questions in our current world of global television. In fact, given the intense competition for webTV viewers worldwide (Netflix, Amazon, Disney, Max, Hulu, CBS, BBC, etc.), such questions have HUGE financial implications and potential returns\$\$\$.

Now it's your turn to be an insightful television critic.

The following are ALL strong TV series, but each with very different types of approaches when it comes to attracting audiences via their pilot episodes. Choose **THREE**, watch the pilot episodes and then COMPARE and CONTRAST their different approaches **technically** and **conceptually** (story/plot progression, character development, acting, visuals, effects, etc.).

Lessons in Chemistry

The Crown

The Good Wife

Money Heist

Firefly

Jane the Virgin

The Rookie

Broadchurch

Stranger Things

Reacher

Ted Lasso

Jack Ryan

1893

Nurse Jackie

Turn

The Diplomat

Made in Heaven

Homeland

Mare of East Town

The Tunnel

Madam Secretary

The Gilded Age

Nashville

Suits

Lupin

Manhattan

The Americans