

district 9

by Movie District 9

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Chosen film: District 9

Directions: In Jenna Avery's (2013) article **"The Purpose and Value of Science Fiction,"** she discusses **the** important roles the genre of Science Fiction plays in our culture. Complete the template below for each of her four main points. Make sure to use complete sentences and discuss your chosen film in detail.

1 Quote from article	Connection to chosen film?
1 "Sci-Fi makes us think, wonder, and ask what if and why."	The "what ifs" that this movie makes us think about are: what if human beings gained the ability to be in harmony with aliens? What if social disparities could not exist in society? The major "why" that the movie makes us ask is: why would we racially discriminate against others based on skin color?
1 "Sci-fi allows us to ask hard questions about gender, racial equality, and how we treat each other."	The film investigates xenophobia and racial inequality by portraying aliens as segregated and suppressed creatures by humans. The movie alludes to the apartheid in different regions of South Africa. The film's title points directly to district 6 in Soweto, a South Africa known for mass protests against segregation. The film also examines race relations and racial identity, provoking race tension in the world. Besides, racial issues continue to induce rallies. The film represents the shift from worldly fantasies to the usual contemporary plights of segregation, repression, and xenophobia. Racial segregation and racism are systems of discrimination resulting from unmerited political, social, and economic orders. Such principles re-invent, manifest themselves in current societies causing poverty, inequality, and severe mental illness. The film highlights different aspects that have occurred in the world, specifically South Africa. The primary occurrence was apartheid which forced the black people to live in ghettos allowing the white people to receive special treatment. The film relocates the alien community from district 9 to district ten camps, representing economic rights denial and relocation from suitable social dwellings to slums.
2 "Sci-Fi looks ahead to the future and asks, is this where we want to end up?"	The film provides a detailed answer to the "where we end up" question. The movie endorses using new technology such as DNA mixing to protect the endangered human species in the

	district 9 regions. However, the technology has severe effects on Wikus' experiences on his personality. The hidden container with the fuel accidentally sprays on Wiku while he tries to confiscate it. The fluid changes him as he becomes more humane and less biologically human. After the war is over, humanity is left to speculate whether the alien will return to declare war or take the remaining aliens back to their home. The film reminds its viewers about the value of collaboration, as seen by Wiku and Christopher.
¹ “Sci-fi is a powerful place to dream up and imagine new technologies.”	There are several new technologies in the film, such as DNA mixing; for example, one character bands into a mechanical exoskeleton to fight bad guys.

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