Sample Film Essay
The strength of this sample essay is in how it stays focused on analyzing the movie AS a movie and
doesn't get lost in treating any aspect except as to how it relates to it in a visual sense.

Lighting for effect

Disney’s *Prince Caspian* is one of many movies that is great to analyze from a lighting standpoint.

*Lighting is used in *Prince Caspian* to portray different moods throughout the movie.* Lighting can be used in many different ways. *In the movie, lighting is used to portray happiness, suspense, and evil.*

Happiness is probably the easiest type of scene to light in a movie. Happiness generally includes bright colors, and sunlight. An example is the scene where the Pevensies arrive in Narnia again after one year of being gone. The scene is on a beach, with bright sunlight and many colors. Color often can be scenic and not just lighting, but using the two together make the scene even more powerful.

While sunlight is the easiest type of scene to light, suspense is much harder. Lighting for suspense includes dark scenes. Lighting for these types of scenes will generally include shadows, along with the color green. Green is the color that portrays change. Another very often used effect is moonlight. Moonlight can be used in many ways to make a scene more dramatic. These are only a few of the many ways to create a suspenseful scene.

Suspense and evil are not as closely linked as some would think. Purple is the color used to portray death. Evil can be closely related to purple. When lighting for an “evil” scene, generally many shadows will be used, along with the colors green, purple and red. Sometimes a dramatic effect will be accomplished by only using only one color of light, or lighting everything from one angle. Firelight is an often used--(and sometimes overused) effect to generate the feeling of evil also.

Lighting in *Prince Caspian* is used to portray happiness, suspense, and evil. There are of course countless other techniques that are used when it comes to lighting those types of scenes. All of the techniques listed above are just some of the key elements when it comes to the lighting in *Prince Caspian.*

Next time you watch a movie, try and notice the lighting and how different styles and techniques are used.
accordingly with scenes. One will find that many of the simple techniques listed above are used quite often!