Title: Edward Scissorhands

Director: Tim Burton

Genre: Drama, Fantasy, Romance

Theme: Society generally fails to accept distinct individuals. Edward is shunned by society because of his differences and individuality. Society expects us to be conformists. This film also explores the consequences that acceptance and rejection have on people.

Other Themes:

* Superficial nature of man and his obsession with materialism (in conjunction with reducing someone to a commodity).
* The nature of relationships between young people of the time and the influences society had on such relationships.
* …discrimination…

Satire: Form of literature in which the vices (man’s immoral habits e.g. gambling), follies (foolishness) and shortcomings of man and society is ridiculed. This is often done through use of

* Irony (humour based on events or using words to suggest the opposite of their literal meaning e.g. A man who is a traffic cop gets his license suspended for unpaid parking tickets),
* Sarcasm (is an ironic or satirical remark that seems to be praising someone or something but is really taunting or cutting. Sarcasm can be used to hurt or offend e.g. “I’m trying to imagine you with a personality”.)
* Parody (parody is an imitation: in this case of the 1950’s America, meant to make fun of it.

Film as a Satire: The entire film is a satire of the American society of the fifties; shows us how false their values were becoming.

Contrast: The director makes use of a lot of contrast to bring his ideas across to the viewer. We have many examples/scenes of romance which contrasts with the horror images.

Stereotyping: Why are there so many stereotypical characters? A satire must present the audience with recognisable types of characters.

Joyce: lustful, man-eating middle-aged woman who lusts after Edward  
Peg: maternal acceptant Peg Boggs  
Kim: beautiful, innocent, adolescent daughter who eventually sees beyond Edward's superficial oddities to the underlying goodness.  
Esmeralda: religious fanatic  
Jim: spoilt, rich kid who rebels in order to annoy his father, the jealous adolescent boyfriend.  
Helen: ordinary ‘happy to accept who she is’ person