[Name of the Writer]

[Name of Instructor]

[Subject]

[Date]

Compare and Contrast Two Actors; Older Performance Vs Newer One

# Introduction

           The war film is recognized as one significant genre of the film industry that captivates the audience’s attention in a great manner. Undoubtedly, the history of Hollywood is full of different masterpieces when it comes to depicting the phenomenon of warfare. The factual, psychological, and emotional aspects of battles in the form of action movies are always inspiring that influence the audience in different ways. It is noteworthy to indicate that the prospect of war movies dramatically transformed as time passes. The old action movies are characterized as different from modern films due to immense changes significantly in the forms of technological advancement. One of the main aspects of movies that is persistent over the years is powerful acting by great performers. It is interesting and significant to compare former actors from contemporary performers to explore the most prominent aspects of acting. This paper focuses to compare and contrast the acting skills of James Edwards (old performer) and Fionn Whitehead (new actor).

**Discussion**

The Steel Helmet (1951) as an old film and Dunkirk (2017) as the film of the modern age are selected to examine the acting approaches of James Edwards and Fionn Whitehead. It is interesting to explore what are the similarities and differences that prevail between these two actors as old and new actors. James Edwards as an old actor and Fionn Whitehead as new actors are considered for the comparison to make better inferences about the approach of strong acting performances. These two actors are selected for comparison because they performed for a similar war genre in different periods of time. It is interesting to examine how these two actors powerfully depicted the situation of warfare by considering their acting styles.

           The actual soul of the calamity of war can better be apprehended after watching performances of both the considered actors in “The Steel Helmet” and “Dunkirk”. James Edwards and Fionn Whitehead, both actors help to experience the seriousness of the issue of war that was portrayed in both the films of the old and modern era. It is also crucial to assess the acting domains of both the actors differently in order to capture their strong and prominent acting aspects. James Edwards acclaimed his position as a young and passionate movie actor who had some great skills to perform the character of African-American medic in “The Steel Helmet.” The character of Corporal Thompson in the film was greatly delivered by James Edwards. His serious looks also helped him to present the seriousness of the situation that reflected the phenomenon of the Korean War.

           A combination of different and crucial acting skills was adopted by James Edwards to present the importance of his character in the film to the audience. The strong and serious performance of Edwards along with the lead character of Gene Evans as Sergeant Zack absolutely compels spectators to give the necessary attention to the character of James Edwards. He beautifully and smoothly marked his position in the film as the sole survivor of his unit who greatly presented the struggles of a warzone. James Edwards successfully attained the prospect of on-screen influence by presenting the energetic and vibrant acting attributes. Undoubtedly, he influenced the character of Corporal Thompson in the movie through his strong grip on aspects of physical articulacy and emotional competence. His body language in the film helps him to illustrate the calamity of the war and the struggle of survival.

           The performance of James Edwards in “The Steel Helmet” is simply praiseworthy as his character helped to understand the smooth transition of the entire story and the depicted events of combating. Bravery is an important aspect of the event of war was greatly delivered by Edwards through his sole survival character in the movie. Through his facial expressions and voice clarity, he defined his passion for striving that eventually gives a sense of courage to the audience. Moreover, the dialogue delivery by Edwards induces viewers to imagine the cruel reality of the catastrophe of war. Considering the modern form of war genre of film, the role of Fionn Whitehead in “Dunkirk can never be ignored. His serious and dramatic acting in the film eventually helps the audience to imagine all the severity and brutality that involves in the case of war.

           All the struggles of the warzone can better apprehend through the idea of calamity delivered by Whitehead through his leading character in the movie. The successful transition of different emotional upheavals by him enforce the audience to give the necessary attention to his character. Physical manifestation and vocal projection are two significant acting skills that are successfully delivered by Whitehead in the film to project the main idea of the severity of war. He effortlessly blended his approach of speech clarity to express his fear during the whole scenario of warfare in “Dunkirk.” A broad range of acting skills and the domain of suitability greatly appear in the case of Whitehead’s strong character in the movie. Whitehead attained his position as the rising actor after his magnificent portrayal as an influential performer in “Dunkirk.” The smooth and natural acting by Whitehead ultimately helped the audience to connect themselves with the entire tragedy of the incident of Dunkirk.

**Conclusion**

           To conclude the discussion about the comparison of James Edwards and Fionn Whitehead as old and new actors, it is significant to mention that both these actors delivered some admirable acting skills. The serious description of their characters is helpful for the viewers to feel the real emotions of the war as presented in the movie. Their ability to depicting the drama of the event is somehow different as the domain of survival presented by Edwards and Whitehead. Regardless of their differences as actors, both actors can be recognized as potential on-screen influencers when it comes to considering warfare as a serious genre of film.