

# Whiplash (Chazelle, 2014)

What is an independent film?

## What is an independent film?

### Task 2

On your own, try to write a definition of independent film in a maximum of 50 words.

1. Look at the following definitions and compare them to yours. What similarities and differences do you notice?  
Is 'independent film' defined by how film institutions are organised, or is it connected to the narrative content and style of films?

This is a definition taken from Wikipedia to get you started:

An independent film is a professional film production resulting in a feature film that is produced mostly or completely outside of the major film studio system. In addition to being produced and distributed by independent entertainment companies, independent films are also produced and/or distributed by subsidiaries of major film studios. Independent films are sometimes distinguishable by their content and style and the way in which the film-makers' personal artistic vision is realised. Usually, but not always, independent films are made with considerably lower film budgets than major studio films. Generally, the marketing of independent films is characterised by limited release, but can also have major marketing campaigns and a wide release. Independent films are often screened at local, national or international film festivals before distribution (theatrical and/or retail release). An independent film production can rival a mainstream film production if it has the necessary funding and distribution.

Use the following links to find more definitions of 'independent film':

[www.raindance.org](http://www.raindance.org)  
[blogs.indiewire.com](http://blogs.indiewire.com)

[Aaron Levy Blog](#)  
[www.gkindiefilm.com](http://www.gkindiefilm.com)

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**What is an independent film?**

2. **How are independent films different from mainstream films?**
3. **Review your own definition and share it with a partner. Do you want to make any changes to your definition?  
Write your final definition here:**

**Independent film is...**