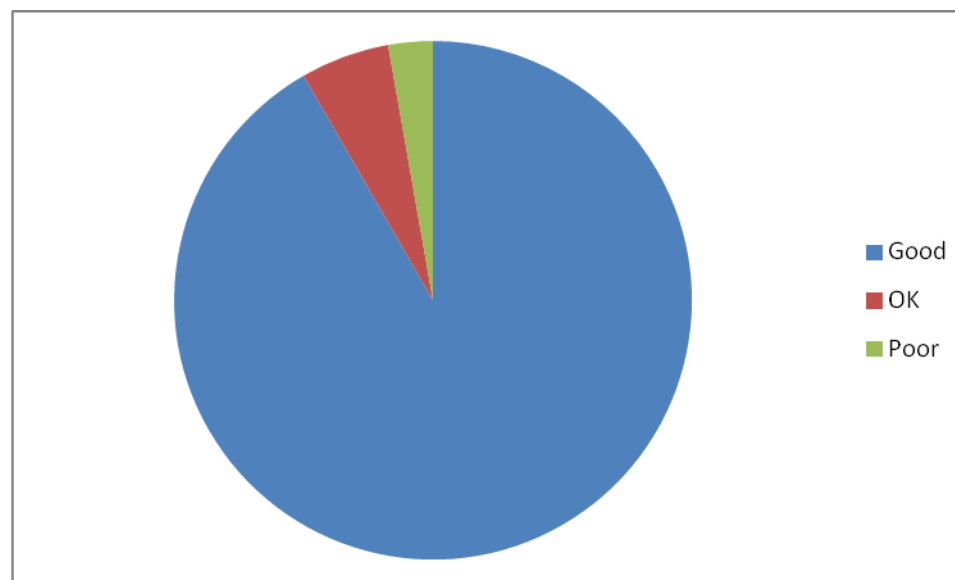


### Review – Timbuktu



Good – 33	OK – 2	Poor – 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was a shocking, uncomfortable and sometimes confusing film to watch with, thankfully, some redeeming features e.g. the landscape, the close relationship of the doomed family and the mock football match. In some ways, I would rather not have seen it but perhaps we need to know what we are up against and how painful other people's lives are compared to our own so I give it a reluctant Good marking.</li> <li>• Thoroughly enjoyed the film. The filming of the landscape was fantastic, as were the everyday acts of subversion. I especially</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Once again it was a film where the subtitles were difficult to read (white print on pale yellow sand for much of the time) so much dialogue missed, obviously</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lovely music, good scenic shots, fun football match. Horrible brutality, sad and depressing story (with longeurs) about religious extremism, mostly</li> </ul>

<p>liked the confusion over whether people could be arrested for singing praises to Allah.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thought the film was very good.</li> <li>• Excellent film, powerful and moving. It makes one wonder what motivates these hypocritical, evil fools to think their will should be imposed on others. Poignant scenes throughout served to illustrate the mindlessness of these Jihadists: the banning of football; whipped for playing music, treatment of the women etc. But those idiots in a time warp rely on their 4x4s and their mobiles. Outstanding work. Sorry but it did make me angry, but there were no surprises!</li> <li>• A very good film that showed how evil is all religious belief. There is no rationality or sense in faith or the behaviour it provokes. The limited commitment many of the fighters had, yet they behave that way through fear-or terror. However, it did reveal the way the ordinary people's integrity showed in their resistance to the cruelty.</li> <li>• We thought it was wonderful. Thank you!</li> <li>• Not sure what I was expecting with a film dealing with issues which make headline news; the violence and menace although present, was not over done, but enough to be harrowing.</li> <li>• A gripping but disturbing film marred by poor subtitles.</li> <li>• I wouldn't say I enjoyed it exactly, but it was a totally absorbing film - I was surprised when the credits started to roll. What a sad story for so many reasons.</li> <li>• A good film with uncomfortable mixture of horror and humour. Almost a documentary, story was fragmented. Amongst the redeeming features were the warmth of the family relationships and beauty of landscape. This film caused us much discomfort.</li> <li>• Not surprising but shocking in its contrast of ordinary life and banal brutality.</li> <li>• A bleak, painfully honest glimpse of life under the despots of Isis.</li> </ul>	<p>reducing enjoyment and understanding. Photography was good and the film did provide an interesting insight into the culture.</p>	<p>unredeemed. I can get that in the newspaper any day. [I recommend The Four Lions for seriously noir comedy about religious extremism in Sheffield!]</p>
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Occasional moments of beauty when normal life carried on. How sad.

- Thought-provoking!
- Not pleasant to watch. A stark demonstration of the terrible deeds which can be carried out in the name of religion.
- We thought this was an amazing film, powerful and utterly gripping. I was particularly drawn to the cinematography, there was a sense of stillness and timelessness about it that I thought was compelling. And so relevant. One of the best films so far.
- Very good. This was a lyrical film about a beautiful place. It portrayed the actions of the ISIS occupiers with wit as well as anger. The scenes of the singer and musicians and the flogging of the singer were particularly moving. The closing scenes of the children and the motorcyclist running were entirely bleak.
- Give a man a brain-washing religion and a gun and he can rule the world. I did enjoy the donkey leading the fundamentalists, says a lot.
- Fantastic photography, humour (never watched invisible football before), violence, human tragedy, defiance, triumph of the human spirit, an enigmatic ending: what more could you ask for? Brilliant film.
- Out of the three of us, two were really, really amazed by this film and they would give it 5 stars. I merely liked it, so my offering is 'good' and 3 stars. We all agreed that the scenes, settings and performances were memorable. Another thought provoking choice from the Programming Team - thank you.
- The film affected me deeply. I think everyone should watch it. I am recommending it to friends and colleagues. The cinematography was great. It is a classic story of our times and shows how a few men with machine guns can change the world.
- I really loved this film. I thought it was very beautiful, but so sad and

bleak in its savagery and unnecessary cruelty. It showed how very cruel any fanaticism is and often how absurd. The images of the 2 traumatised children whose childhood innocence and happiness has just been ripped away have haunted me ever since.

- Very unusual and beautiful cinematography at times. Uncomfortable mix between documentary and feature film made one question the insights one was being given and we were totally bemused by some of the scenes, felt we'd been dropped into an inexplicable world, but I guess that's what it's all about!