**CAT Reading 2 notes**

**The Graduate: 1st Graduate reading**

* The American audience was ready for films that defied the 30 year old PCA formula.
* The character Ben is an unlikely hero in the film
* The film was one of the first to use a pop-music sound track
* The shots in the first few scenes when Ben is staring into the fish tank, suggest that he is underwater.
* The phrase that Ben says to Mrs. Robison’s: ‘Mrs. Robinson, you’re trying to seduce me’ has become one of the most famous lines in American film
* Bens relationship with his parents is very typically in a 60’s style
* The second party scene in the film highlights the generational divide – scene where we see Ben from his point of view in the scuba diving suit
* This scene also symbolizes the fact that it shows the reality of Ben’s life when he is under water, in the fact that eventually he will have to come up for air.
* The Graduate mixed several genres of film at once – Romance, teen pic, comedy and melodrama.
* ‘The graduate stylistically and structurally rooted in the French new wave’
* The Graduate and Bonnie and Clive made auteur renaissance – the brief Golden Age