A film magazine has invited its readers to submit reviews of films which are set in the future, but deal with themes relevant to today’s world, such as (1a) relationships with technology or (1b) environmental problems. You decide to submit a review briefly (1) describing such a film and explaining (2) why its themes are relevant today. You should also consider how important it is for (3) films set in the future to say something about contemporary society. (ucles b2 – test 2)

(280-320 words)
Film Review: The Inevitable

We often consider science-fiction films as impossible fairy tales that have little to do with our present reality. Well, “The Inevitable” released in 2005 and directed by Cas Anvar, is due to change that preconception.

Introduction (35 words): Facts about the film & immediate reference to the central question: “themes relevant to today’s world”

“The Inevitable” is set in a future world when people have colonized the Solar System and Miller a police detective is burdened with the onerous task of keeping peace and order in the rebellious colony of Europa. Miller has state-of-the-art thought control technology at his disposal which he uses in a desperate attempt to crack down the relentless resistance of a group of environmental activists and hackers who fight for ‘freshwater for everyone’ and they are led by Sarah.

Body §A (79 words): The plot (present simple) Don’t reveal the end

From the word go you are stunned by the realistic special effects that paint an utterly unnatural picture. A landscape of metal constructions inhabited by creatures that you can not tell whether they are humans or machines. In stark contrast to that cold, glittering background comes the vivacious presence of Sarah who gives an unsurpassable performance as a diehard rebel. While Sarah so powerfully embodies the principle that a life without values is a worthless life, Miller becomes the symbol of the ‘robot-man’. An unemotional humanoid that seems to see no other purpose in life other than blindly executing orders. Miller is so convincing in his role that when he starts revealing some glimmers of emotions, he really takes us by surprise.

Body §B (122 words): How well the theme of the film is given. SOS: interweave facts with opinion

While the futuristic setting of the film places it very far from our contemporary reality its theme brings it straight into our lives. Sarah’s determination to save the scarce supplies of fresh water on her planet is a wake up call for the imminent environmental disasters that haunt our modern lives. Simultaneously, Miller’s omnipotent technology gives us a scary perspective of the true potential of our technological developments.

Body §C (68 words) : Why the themes of the film are relevant today (2)

‘The Inevitable’ is, clearly, a projection of the consequences of modern life in the future. Apparently, this is the essence of science-fiction: to help us look at our present time from a distant perspective. If you are a science-fiction lover ‘The Inevitable’ is definitely a must-see.

Conclusion (46 words): (3) whether films set in the future should say sth about contemporary society + your Recommendation (350 words)