



2026 CC7D ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

Essential Element Prop

A time piece

The prop must be a device that denotes the passage of time while it is clearly held on-screen by a character in the character's hand.

Simply touching the object is not sufficient - it must be actively handled.

The time piece may be handled by any character in any scene.

A prop is an inanimate object.

A prop is not a costume. If the object is wearable, it must be removed and handled separately to qualify.

Essential Element Character

Buddy

A person dressed inappropriately for an occasion

The character may be any gender.

The character must appear on-screen in the film.

It must be clearly conveyed through the story or performance that the character is dressed in a way that is not appropriate for the occasion.

The name does not need to be spoken aloud, but it must be clear that the character is Buddy and that they are inappropriately dressed for the occasion in the scene.

Essential Element Line

“No one touch the tiny one.”

The line must be spoken **exactly as written**.

It cannot be abbreviated or altered in any way (e.g., “Don’t touch the tiny one” is not acceptable).

Saying the line incorrectly will result in disqualification.

The line must be clear, distinct and audible.

CC7D Steer Comm determines the audible clarity of the Essential Element Line.

The line may be spoken, sung and/or written.

If written, the line must appear on-screen and be clearly visible.

The line may be spoken in a foreign language; however, an EXACT English translation must appear on-screen.

The 4th Element

The Human Element

Before the Essential Elements were revealed, each Team Leader participated in a private experience by choosing to **See**, **Hear**, or **Feel**.

Based on that experience, the Team Leader answered three questions on a card.

Those three responses are your team's 4th Element.

Your film should take the interpretation of those answers and incorporate them into the story of their film as follows:

Description (Answer 1)

Describes the world or a situation in your film.

Emotion (Answer 2)

Reflects an emotion experienced by your main character.

Action (Answer 3)

Conveys an action that resolves the central conflict of your film.

The answers written down on the card have been recorded.
Please make sure to retrieve your team's Human Element card before you leave the Kick-Off.

The interpretation of these responses is entirely up to your team.

The 4th Element is fulfilled by submitting the 4th Element Form.

The CC7D Steering Comm will review the 4th Element Form to verify that your film incorporates the three Human Element prompts as required.



Make sure to go to the registration table and retrieve the card that you submitted prior to the distribution of the Essential Elements.

The answers to your prompts cannot be changed.



It's better to be safe than sorry!

Uncertainty can lead to disqualification. When in doubt, ask.

A quick question and answer can save you a big disappointment later!

Reach out to CC7D Steer Comm if you have any questions or need clarification on the Essential Elements, the CC7D Rules or need any assistance!

infocc7d@gmail.com

The 4th Element Form

The Human Element

Submit this form with your film on July 15, 2026.

Description

What was your answer for the prompt “Describe what you (heard, felt, saw)?”

This answer should describe the world or a situation in the film.

Emotion

What was your answer for the prompt “What emotion does this evoke?”

This answer should reflect an emotion the main character experiences during the film.

Action

What was your answer for the prompt “What does it make you want to do?”

This answer should convey an action that resolves the central conflict of the film.

Briefly explain how your Description, Emotion, and Action were interpreted and incorporated into your film.

Enter your answer in the box below.