

CONVERSATION CONNECTION ACTIVITIES

TOPIC	Movies
ACTIVITIES:	<p>1. OPENING ACTIVITY Directions: Choose one of the following options.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Watch and discuss a movie trailer(s). 2. Watch an Ebert and Roeper Mini-Reviews. Discuss the review. 3. Read and discuss a newspaper or magazine review of a recent film. <p>2. VOCABULARY-BUILDING ACTIVITY Directions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review vocabulary words – definitions and pronunciation. ○ Review expressions. ○ Review reduction. <p>3. CONVERSATION STARTERS – Small group discussion Directions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Choose a facilitator for each group to throw out questions to promote discussion (see below), or post each group of questions by topic on an overhead or smart classroom computer. Allow sufficient time for small groups to view and discuss questions. ○ Encourage students to generate their own follow-up questions. ○ Rotate the topics so that all groups have an opportunity to discuss them. <p>4. CLOSING ACTIVITY Directions: Choose from the following options.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Select a scene from a popular movie and view it. Discuss the scene and pertinent vocabulary. 2. Pair students who have seen the same movie and have them prepare a brief review of the film to present to a small group of student pairs.
VOCABULARY EXPRESSIONS REDUCTIONS	<p><u>WORD LIST</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. genre/kind 2. horror

3. comedy
4. drama
5. animated
6. critic
7. review
8. trailers
9. ratings
10. character
11. movie buff*

buff *n. Informal*

One who is enthusiastic and knowledgeable about a subject: *a Civil War buff.*

[From the buff-colored uniform worn by New York volunteer firemen around 1920, originally applied to an enthusiast of fires and firefighting.]

EXPRESSIONS

1. Watch a movie – to view a film

Explanation: I watch a movie when I am sitting before the screen and watching it as it plays. Days later, I say I have seen the movie.

I may want to see another movie. In that case I must devote some time to watching it.

2. Come out – To be inaugurated, the first time presented
3. All-time favorite – Liked best, most favorite
4. Munch on – To eat or snack on
5. Pros and cons – Arguments or considerations for and against something
6. Thumbs up – An expression of approval or hopefulness
7. Thumbs down – Indicates disapproval or rejection

Two Thumbs Up

Beginning with the *Siskel & Ebert* incarnation, the show wrapped up with each critic rating the films with a "thumbs up" or "thumbs down" as a bottom-line recommendation. "Thumbs up" means three stars or higher. This system departs from the longstanding tradition of star ratings. As the show became more influential, studios would proudly advertise when their movie got "two thumbs up". In response, the phrase was [trademarked](#) to ensure against [fraudulent](#) use that would endanger its credibility.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ebert & Roeper#Popularity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ebert_%26_Roeper#Popularity)

REDUCTIONS

kindsa (kinds of)

ADDITIONAL SPEAKING ACTIVITY	<p>Information Gap Activity on <i>Raiders of the Lost Ark</i> - An ESL speaking activity for communicative classrooms (See resources)</p>
MATERIALS/ ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Questions http://iteslj.org/questions ○ Listening: Can you identify the movies being described? (Transcript and audio) http://www.ello.org/TextGames/019-Movie.htm For the same listening activity without a transcript, go to http://www.ello.org/PagesGames/019-Movie.htm ○ Movies Trailers: http://movies.yahoo.com/trailers By Genre: http://www.imdb.com/Sections/Genres Ratings: http://www.filmratings.com/guide.htm Reviews: Mini video clips http://tvplex.go.com/buenavista/ebertandroeper/videoclips.html Top 7 Movies About Immigration and Marriage: http://marriage.about.com/od/movies/tp/movimmigration.htm ○ Information gap - An ESL speaking activity for communicative classrooms: http://www.eslgo.com/resources/sa/ig_raiders1.html ○ Dictionaries: http://encarta.msn.com/encnet/features/dictionary/dictionaryhome.aspx (with audio) ○ http://www.yourdictionary.com (with audio) ○ Reductions: Etymology, pronunciation, and part of speech explained at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reduction_(linguistics)
CONVERSATION-STARTER QUESTIONS	<p>CONVERSATION STARTERS – Group discussion questions</p> <p><u>TOPIC 1 – Likes and Dislikes</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is your favorite movie genre? 2. Which do you like better, action movies, comedy movies, or dramas? Why? 3. Do you watch animated movies? Why or why not? 4. What is your favorite animated movie? Why? 5. Do you like to watch horror movies? Why or why not? 6. Is there a movie you could watch over and over again? 7. Who's your favorite director? Why? 8. Who is your favorite actor or actress? Why? 9. Are there any kinds of movies you dislike? If so, what kinds? Why do you dislike them? 10. If a book has been made into a movie, which do you prefer to do first, see the movie or read the book? Why? 11. Which book have you read and then seen the movie? Did you like the movie version? Why or why not? 12. What is your all-time favorite movie? 13. What's one of your favorite movies? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What kind of movie is it? ○ Who's in it?

- Who directed it?
- Why do you like it?
- When did it come out?
- Where was it filmed?
- How many times have you seen it?
- Would you recommend it? Why?

TOPIC 2 – Movie Watching

1. Are you a movie buff?
2. Do you usually watch movies at home or at a movie theater?
3. How often do you go to movies?
4. How often do you rent DVDs or videos?
5. Do you rent them at a store or online? What are the pros and cons of each?
6. How many DVDs do you own?
7. How do you decide which movie to watch? Do you ask friends or read a movie review?
8. What was the last movie you saw? Was it good? Who did you see it with?
9. Do you watch animated movies? Why or why not?
10. What is your favorite animated movie?
11. What movie star would you most like to meet?
12. What do you like to munch on when you watch a movie?
13. When you go to the movie theater, do you arrive early and watch the trailers?

TOPIC 3 – American Movies

1. How much does it cost to see a movie in your country?
2. What is the first American movie you remember seeing? What did you like about the movie? What didn't you like about it?
3. What movie have you watched in your language and then watched in English? Was the translation good?
4. Are American movie titles always the same when they're translated into your language?
5. Do you think American movies represent the American culture well? Why or why not?
6. What movie from your country would you recommend to your friends here in the United States? Why?
7. What is your favorite American comedy?
8. What is your favorite American drama?
9. Which is your favorite American movie character? Why?
10. Are movies rated in your country? Is there an age restriction on movies?
11. Do you ever read movie reviews before watching a movie? What reviews do you read?
12. Do you ever watch movie reviews on television or online? Which critics do you watch?
13. Are the thumbs up and thumbs down gestures used in your country to express approval and disapproval?

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