

Movie Ratings on Amazon.com and RottenTomatoes.com

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Introduction

Task:

Attempt to predict rating differences between Amazon.com and RottenTomatoes.com using the sites' reviews and other features.

Why:

Show the different contexts in which these similar-purpose sites are used.

Data

- Movies selected through Amazon
 - Movies only
 - No TV
 - DVDs
 - No Blu-Ray, etc
 - 1 Star & Up
 - At least some ratings
 - Users cannot rate 0 stars
 - Ensure > 25 ratings
 - Most Popular sorting

Coming Soon

[Movies & TV](#) > [Movies](#) > [DVD](#) > [Coming Soon](#) > [1 Star & Up](#)

Showing 1 - 12 of 185 Results

 [Detail](#)  [Image](#)

1. **Despicable Me 2** Starring Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig, Benjamin Bratt and Ken Jeong (2013)



★★★★☆  (85)

DVD

[Buy new:](#) ~~\$29.98~~ **\$19.96** ✓ [Prime](#)

Available for Pre-order. This item will be released on December 10, 2013.

Pre-order Price Guarantee. [See Details](#)

2. **Red 2** Starring Bruce Willis, Helen Mirren, John Malkovich, et al. (2013)



★★★★☆  (49)

DVD

[Buy new:](#) ~~\$29.95~~ **\$14.96** ✓ [Prime](#)

Available for Pre-order. This item will be released on November 26, 2013.

Pre-order Price Guarantee. [See Details](#)

3. **Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters** Starring Logan Lerman, Alexandra Daddario, Brandon T. Jackson, et al. (2013)



★★★★☆  (34)

DVD

[Buy new:](#) ~~\$29.98~~ **\$19.96** ✓ [Prime](#)

Available for Pre-order. This item will be released on December 17, 2013.

Last 90 Days

Movies & TV > Movies > DVD > Last 90 Days > 1 Star & Up

Showing 1 - 12 of 1,154 Results




Detail



Image

1.




Planes Starring Dane Cook, Stacy Keach, Brad Garrett and Teri Hatcher (2013)

★★★★☆ ☒ (65)

DVD

Buy new: ~~\$29.99~~ **\$16.96** ✓Prime 8 new from **\$16.96** 1 used from **\$23.67**

In Stock
2.



Monsters University (DVD) (2013)


★★★★☆ ☒ (378)

DVD

Buy new: ~~\$29.99~~ **\$17.99** ✓Prime 14 new from **\$17.13** 3 used from **\$13.10**

Order in the next **4 hours** to get it by Friday, Nov 22.

Trade in this item for an Amazon.com Gift Card
3.



Turbo Starring Ryan Reynolds, Paul Giamatti, Maya Rudolph, et al. (2013)

★★★★☆ ☒ (103)

DVD

Buy new: ~~\$29.98~~ **\$14.99** ✓Prime 10 new from **\$14.99** 1 used from **\$24.08**

Order in the next **4 hours** to get it by Friday, Nov 22.

Last Year & Last Decade

Movies & TV > Movies > DVD > 1 Star & Up > 2010 & Newer or 2000 - 2009

Showing 1 - 12 of 73,018 Results

 Detail  Image

1.



Monsters University (DVD) (2013)

★★★★★  (378)

DVD

Buy new: ~~\$29.99~~ **\$17.99** ✓ Prime 14 new from **\$17.13** 3 used from **\$13.10**

Order in the next **4 hours** to get it by Friday, Nov 22.

Trade in this item for an Amazon.com Gift Card

2.



Despicable Me 2 Starring Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig, Benjamin Bratt and Ken Jeong (2013)

★★★★★  (85)

DVD

Buy new: ~~\$29.98~~ **\$19.96** ✓ Prime

Available for Pre-order. This item will be released on December 10, 2013.

Pre-order Price Guarantee. [See Details](#)

3.



Turbo Starring Ryan Reynolds, Paul Giamatti, Maya Rudolph, et al. (2013)

★★★★★  (103)

DVD

Buy new: ~~\$29.98~~ **\$14.99** ✓ Prime 10 new from **\$14.99** 1 used from **\$24.08**

Order in the next **4 hours** to get it by Friday, Nov 22.

First Output (Last 90 Days)

1. Planes ~ Dane Cook, Stacy Keach, Brad Garrett and Teri Hatcher (DVD - 2013) Buy new: \$29.99 \$16.96 8 new from \$16.96 1 used from \$23.67 Watch It Now: \$14.99 to buy In Stock FREE Shipping on orders over \$35 (65)

<http://www.amazon.com/Planes-Dane-Cook/dp/B00F522C7C>

3.4 out of 5 stars

2. Monsters University (DVD) (DVD - 2013) Buy new: \$29.99 \$17.99 14 new from \$17.13 3 used from \$13.10 Get it by Friday, Nov. 22 if you order in the next 4 hours and choose one-day shipping. FREE Shipping on orders over \$35 (378)

<http://www.amazon.com/Monsters-University-DVD/dp/B00E9ZATJO>

4.4 out of 5 stars

3. Turbo ~ Ryan Reynolds, Paul Giamatti, Maya Rudolph and Samuel L. Jackson (DVD - 2013) Buy new: \$29.98 \$14.99 10 new from \$14.99 1 used from \$24.08 Watch It Now Get it by Friday, Nov. 22 if you order in the next 4 hours and choose one-day shipping. FREE Shipping on orders over \$35 (103)

<http://www.amazon.com/Turbo-Ryan-Reynolds/dp/B00E00OGE2>

4.2 out of 5 stars

4. Man of Steel (Two-Disc Special Edition DVD + UltraViolet) ~ Henry Cavill, Amy Adams, Michael Shannon and Kevin Costner (DVD - 2013) Buy new: \$28.98 \$16.99 13 new from \$16.99 4 used from \$14.05 Watch It Now: \$14.99 to buy Get it by Friday, Nov. 22 if you order in the next 51 minutes and choose one-day shipping. FREE Shipping on orders over \$35 Only 3 left in stock - order soon. (834)

<http://www.amazon.com/Steel-Two-Disc-Special-Edition-UltraViolet/dp/B008JFUPFI>

3.8 out of 5 stars

Amazon Output

1. Planes ~ Dane Cook, Stacy Keach, Brad Garrett and Teri Hatcher (DVD - 2013) Buy new: \$29.99 \$16.96 8 new from \$16.96 1 used from \$23.67 Watch It Now: \$14.99 to buy In Stock FREE Shipping on orders over \$35 (64)

163 of 178 people found the following review helpful 4.0 out of 5 stars It's a movie for KIDS!, August 27, 2013 By Daniel A. Brown (Leyden, MA) - See all my reviews (REAL NAME) This review is from: Planes (Blu-ray + DVD + Digital Copy) (Blu-ray) Maybe there should be a law that only children should review movies for children. Asking some adult critic to get off his/her lofty perch and roll around in the mud of childhood might be a bit of a stretch. Is "Planes" bland, derivative pablum with a "feel-good" message? Sure, if you are over 30. I was lucky to see it with my 8-year-old grandson and his two similarly aged friends. They loved it and talked about the characters all evening. Being Disney, it had excellent graphics, funny sight gags and naughty references that flew (literally at times) over the heads of the kiddies (vasectomies figure big here). If you are an adult who loves airplanes, there are cartoon versions of some real beauties especially the Gee Bee Super Sportster, a barrel-shaped monster from the 1930's, and the stolid F4U Corsair, modeled after WWII ace Ira Kepford's bird. As far as the plot; that's unimportant. It is indeed boilerplate but for kids, it's the sheer thrill of watching an action-packed Saturday matinée, laps adorned with popcorn and soda containers, that matters. Let the critics sip Chardonnay over their computers in disdain. The kids don't care. Help other customers find the most helpful reviews Was this review helpful to you? Yes No Report abuse | Permalink Comment Comments (9)

Rotten Tomatoes Output

Planes (2013)

Average Rating: 4.6/10 Reviews Counted: 109 Fresh: 29 | Rotten: 80 Average Rating: 4.6/10 Critic Reviews: 23 Fresh: 5 | Rotten: 18 liked it Average Rating: 3.3/5 User Ratings: 52,029

An endearing enough David-and-Goliath tale, aimed squarely at younger kids. August 13, 2013 Full Review Dave Calhoun Time Out Top Critic A visually colorful but otherwise vanilla continuation of the series. August 9, 2013 Full Review William Goss Film.com Top Critic Strictly by the numbers, from the believe-in-yourself moral to the purely predictable ending. August 9, 2013 Full Review Stephen Whitty Newark Star-Ledger Top Critic Has the look and feel of Pixar's 2006 hit, "Cars," if not the latter's charm or strong story. August 8, 2013 Full Review Tom Keogh Seattle Times Top Critic "Planes" is for the most part content to imitate rather than innovate, presumably hoping to reap a respectable fraction of the box office numbers of "Cars" and "Cars 2," which together made hundreds of millions of dollars. August 8, 2013 Full Review Neil Genzlinger New York Times Top Critic As with "Cars," the world of "Planes" feels safe. A little too safe, perhaps. August 8, 2013 Full Review Betsy Sharkey Los Angeles Times Top Critic It lacks the passion and depth of their earlier work, replacing meaningful storylines and deeply-felt emotions with clichés and maudlin moral lessons. November 20, 2013 Full Review Jeff Beck Examiner.com I didn't care, my kids didn't care, and if I had invited the neighbors over to witness this dull flight, they wouldn't have cared either. November 17, 2013 Full Review

Audience Reviews for Planes Planes is one of the first animated features that I've actually found to be not up to the standards of what I've expected from Disney. This is a tiresome film that is quite dull and it recycles ideas from previous animated outings, Cars being the most prominent example. The film is really not that entertaining to begin with, though the voice cast is interesting, there is nothing good to really enjoy here. The animation is wonderful, but that doesn't redeem Planes from being a poor effort on the part of Disney. This was a film that could have been good, but instead it fails to be truly entertaining and fun from start to finish. During the film, some people actually left and asked for a refund. This is purely and simply put a lazy movie that just isn't worth your time. The film was originally intended for a straight to DVD release, and it should have been so. This film was a sheer disappointment. The only thing that stands out here is the animation, but that's it. The film really isn't worth your time, and it is among Disney's worst computer animated features. Hopefully they'll redeem themselves with future movies, but Planes fails to take flight, and stalls in terms of an engaging, fun storyline and entertainment value. I really didn't enjoy this movie and it's quite forgettable in the long run. Disney have made finer animated films than this, but with Planes, it's clear that they're scraping the bottom of the barrel of ideas. This film should have been good, but instead it's a boring movie that just fails and it leaves you wanting much more out of the film. Planes is not worth your time.

Experiment

- Use unigrams (aka “bag of words”) to identify words specific to each site, especially in the case of a wide rating range
- Started with dummy list to streamline process
 - Manually selected 5 movies with necessary qualities and imported links
 - Results not conclusive

Experiment

- Attempt to expand to a larger number of movies for each category leads to a very large list of features, most of which occur infrequently
- How to approach this?
 - Frequency threshold
 - At least 5 differences in occurrence
 - Remove formatting words, movie titles
 - Remove punctuation, convert to lower case

Conclusions

- In this sample, no Rotten Tomatoes movie result had a significantly higher rating than its Amazon.com counterpart.
 - Significant defined by at least 2 points difference after normalizing (finding the same base)
 - All movies selected are either “Balanced” or lean toward Amazon.com
- However, no words appear to be contextual clues as to a movie’s rating

Future Work

- Add other features
 - Movie statistics
 - Reviewer data
- Group words by characteristics
 - Rather than unigrams, find what the words represent
- Add more movies
- Focus on a single movie's ratings over time
- Add other movie review sites
 - IMDB
 - Fandango.com

Related Work

Wong, Felix Ming Fai, Soumya Sen, and Mung Chiang. "Why watching movie tweets won't tell the whole story?." Proceedings of the 2012 ACM workshop on Workshop on online social networks. ACM, 2012.

- Compares tweet sentiment with ratings on IMDb and RottenTomatoes

Zhuang, Li, Feng Jing, and Xiao-Yan Zhu. "Movie review mining and summarization." Proceedings of the 15th ACM international conference on Information and knowledge management. ACM, 2006.

- Extract viewer's opinions about movie from reviews
- Determine whether opinions are generally positive or generally negative