

Open Discussion

LEVEL NUMBER LANGUAGE

Intermediate (B1) EN_OD_B2_02 English

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A conversation about... films and TV

In this lesson, you'll have the opportunity to review vocabulary and practise your conversational skills.

What words come to mind?

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Exploring genres and personal taste

- **Vocabulary:** cinematography, narrative, cult classic
- Discussion questions:
 - Does cinematography influence your perception of genre?
 - Discuss a cult classic you think has reshaped its genre.

The craft behind the scenes

- Vocabulary: artistic vision, mise-en-scène
- Discussion Questions:
 - In what ways does a director's artistic vision shape the storytelling of a film?
 - What is 'mise-en-scène'? Use this concept to describe a film you love.

The art of re-watching

- Vocabulary: narrative arc, character development, theme
- Discussion Questions:
 - Discuss how character development can influence your decision to re-watch a film.
 - What thematic elements make a film timeless and worth revisiting?

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The influence of technology

- Vocabulary: digital effects, virtual reality, streaming platforms
- Discussion Questions:

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- How have digital effects altered the way stories are told in modern films and series?
- What impact do you think streaming platforms have on the global accessibility and popularity of certain films or series?

Critiquing films and series

- **Vocabulary:** cinematic critique, plot devices, coherence
- Discussion Questions:
 - How can plot devices (e.g. flashback, flashforward, Deus Ex Machina, unreliable narrator) enhance the way a story is told onscreen?
 - Discuss the role of a critic's review in shaping your decision to watch a film or series. Do you often agree or disagree with professional critiques?



Teacher Notes

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STEP 1

Warm-up. Students brainstorm useful vocabulary for a discussion about films and TV.

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STEP 2

Explain that today's class will focus on film and TV, based on 5 prompts about different aspects of this topic.

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STEP 3

Guide students through the 5 prompts. Feel free to use breakout rooms. Feel free to add your own questions.

- Encourage open-ended discussions.
- Integrate vocabulary naturally into conversations.
- Be flexible with the flow of discussion, catering to students' interests.
- Use the prompts to guide but not dominate the conversation.

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STEP 4

Wrap up the class by having students briefly share what they learned or found interesting in today's class.



Additional discussion topics:

- The evolution of streaming services
- Real-life stories in cinema: balancing fact and fiction
- The impact of high-budget productions
- The cultural influence of long-running series
- Exploring diverse narratives in modern cinema

