

ACTIVITY 2

Title: K-Pop: Demon Hunters

Genre: Action, Fantasy, Comedy, Music

Director: Maggie Kang, Chris Appelhans

Producer(s): Michelle Wong

Co-Producer: Scott Berri & Jacky Priddle

Release Year: 2025

Studio: Sony Pictures Animation

Brief Synopsis

K-Pop Demon Hunters is about a famous K-pop girl group who secretly fight demons while maintaining their idol careers. The film shows how they balance two very different worlds as stars and heroes. It highlights systems thinking by showing how their actions in one part of their lives affect the other, such as how fame, teamwork, pressure, and secrecy are all connected. They learn that understanding the whole system helps them survive both on stage and in battle.

Questions to answer:

1. What are the key systems depicted in the film (e.g., entertainment industry, fan culture, media)?

Around the K-pop idols, the movie depicts multiple systems at work, including the media, fan culture, and entertainment industry. The ladies are fighting a secret battle against a hidden magical system that is full of demons.

2. How do the different characters or groups act as subsystems within a larger system?

Each performer has a distinct role to play in their demon-hunting missions as well as on stage. As part of the system, their management staff also controls their schedule and image, and their supporters have an impact on how the public views them.

3. Are there feedback loops present? What are the effects of those loops (positive or negative)?

Yes, there are feedback loops. As they become more famous, they get more attention, which increases the pressure to stay perfect—this can be stressful and even dangerous. However, when they are overworked or struggling emotionally, it affects their public performance and their ability to fight demons.

4. How does one part of the system affect the whole? Provide an example.

If one member of the team breaks down, whether from stress, injury, or personal issues, it affects the whole group. A single delay or mistake during a mission can also lead to problems with their show or risk exposing their secret.

5. What mental models are shown by the characters (or their management), and how do they impact decisions?

The management believes that idols should always look perfect, so they push the girls to hide any weakness. But the idols start to realize they don't need to pretend all the time, and that honesty and teamwork are more important than a flawless image.

6. Are there examples of systems adapting or resisting change?

The girls slowly learn to adapt by supporting each other and finding a better balance between their two lives. Meanwhile, the entertainment industry resists change and keeps pushing them to meet unrealistic standards.

7. How does the film show interdependence within a team or system?

Both on stage and in combat, the girls are totally dependent on one another. They each have unique strengths, and without trust and teamwork, they wouldn't succeed in either world.

8. Can you identify any system archetypes (e.g., "success to the successful", "limits to growth")?

Yes, the more successful they become, the more pressure they face, which makes it harder to keep going. This shows how success can sometimes create its own limits.

9. What unintended consequences arise from actions in the system?

Their efforts to keep their demon-hunting life a secret sometimes lead to rumors and close calls that could ruin their careers. Trying to be perfect also puts them at risk of burnout.

10. What lessons about systems thinking can be drawn from the film's resolution?

The movie shows that everything is connected. Solving one problem without thinking about the whole system can create new issues. The girls learn that balance, communication, and understanding the bigger picture are key to surviving and growing.

Final Note or your insight to the movie:

K-Pop: Demon Hunters shows us that true strength comes from understanding how everything works together, even in a world full of glamour and imagination. Whether you're part of a team, a system, or just trying to find your place, understanding how one thing affects another can help you make smarter, kinder choices.