

Movie Logic

I Wanna Watch...

- Teacher's Insights -

This fun and light-hearted class for upper intermediate and advanced students also has a very practical purpose: to learn phrasal verbs (and talk about some good films at the same time!).

This shorter class is expected to take around 30 minutes. Extend it by using general speaking questions provided at the end of the Teacher's Insights.

Introduction: **Take a look at the intro paragraph and try to think of examples.**

Certain elements of "movie logic" seem to be universal. Of course, all cars blow up as soon as they impact anything (anything at all). I mean, where would the fun be if not? All action movies need exploding cars. So, are you able to come up with any more of these situations which only happen in movies?

¹ blow up = explode ² come up with = think of an idea

Students may come up with some of the movie logic ideas given in the next exercise. That's fine! Also, you can have one or two extra to help them think. What about when a baddie chases a goodie and the baddie is right behind the goodie, but in the next scene there's 100 metres between them?

Write down any useful vocabulary that comes up at this point, such as 'goodie' and 'baddie'.

Reading & Vocabulary: **Read the examples of "movie logic", and take note of the phrasal verbs. Can you think of a movie with this logic?**

1. A computer nerd will hack into any system in about six seconds just by typing really fast.
Examples: Jurassic Park (1993), Spy Kids (2001)
2. The baddies will always attack the hero one by one, so they can be taken out one by one.
Kill Bill: Volume 1 (2003), The Matrix (1999), most of the Bond films
3. Every window in Paris will always look onto the Eiffel Tower.
Not just films but even animation series such as The Simpsons when visiting Paris
4. Drugs that knock you out will work immediately; you will then wake up without any side effects at a convenient time later in the movie.
Think James Bond and other action movies.
5. Hard punches to the nose will also knock you out; the same wake-up logic will apply.
Pretty common in many superhero movies.
6. Fierce animals and dinosaurs will always let off a big roar before attacking to give people time to escape at the last second.
Let's come back to the any of the Jurassic Park or Jurassic world films.
7. Drivers will keep on driving even though a fight is taking place on the roof of the car.
Mad Max 2 (1981)
8. Every bomb will always have a big screen showing the exact seconds left until it goes off.
Fight Club (1999)
9. The lift doors will always shut just in time for the bad guy not to get in.
Annabelle (2014) but as it's a horror, the doors open again!
10. Knocking books out of someone's hand will always make them fall for you.
In Notting Hill, it's orange juice, but close enough!

Hey, teachers! If you have any examples for other teachers, let us know at loyd@eslhome.es to add them.

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Speaking: Tell your anecdotes in the speaking activity.

Before starting this speaking activity, please check the questions. If are uncomfortable for you due to any difficult past experience or you do not want to answer them, please let your teacher know!

Attention! The above message is written in case any students have had a traumatic experience being knocked out or with a dangerous animal, etc. The questions are designed not to be triggering; we haven't asked, 'Have you ever seen something blow up?'. This might be especially difficult if you teach army or ex-army students, just as an example. However, no one knows your students better than you do. Hold the conversations or ask for the anecdotes that you feel are appropriate, ensuring no one feels uncomfortable.

A Movie Lifestyle

Have you found yourself in any real-life movie scenes without knowing it? Take a look at the following questions and when you see one where you might have a story, tell the group about it!

Have you ever...

1. had a device or an account hacked into?
2. seen a situation like someone on a bicycle being taken out by lamppost?
3. stayed in a hotel room which looked onto a famous monument?
4. been knocked out (knocked unconscious)?
5. seen an animal let off a big roar?
6. decided to keep on driving even though your car made a strange noise?
7. been in a building when the fire alarm has gone off?
8. reached a lift just in time to get in, only to find you wish you'd waited?
9. knocked a pile of stuff out of someone's hand?
10. made someone fall for you by knocking a pile of stuff out of their hand?



Extra: Talk about movies together with the group.

1. Can you think of a movie with a memorable plot twist?
2. Can you think of a movie with a satisfying climax?
3. Can you think of a movie with a strong main character arc?
4. Can you think of a movie that is a prequel or sequel?
5. Can you think of a movie with symbolism that you found interesting?
6. Can you think of a movie that addresses important social issues?
7. Can you think of a movie with a unique director's style?
8. Can you think of a movie that you found memorable for its foreshadowing?
9. Can you think of a movie where the plot deviates significantly from the book it's based on?
10. Can you think of a movie with a strong message or theme?