



UNEX Understanding What We Read



Title: The movie trailer

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Keywords: #reading for gist #scanning #summarising

Duration: *The activity is suitable for a single lesson about 40-45 min*

Description:

“The movie trailer” pushes the learners to make use of the positive parts of their reading experience, rather than any parts they may have found dull or boring. Nowadays movies are very popular and are often use for different learning activities.

The activity will provide new ideas which can be used by the teacher in class. By using movie trailers, the teacher can provoke students’ interest.

The main idea of the activity is engage the learners into reading and to design a trailer for a book or a story which they are all familiar with. As trailers are very brief, learners need to summarize key messages from the book or the story succinctly.

Objectives:

- 1. to develop students’ comprehension skills while reading;*
- 2. to develop abilities to identify key parts of a text;*
- 3. to develop students’ abilities to work in a team, together with other students.*

Activities and stages

- 1. Warm-up - The teacher, using visual support presents the topic of the learners- movies. He can use cinema’s leaflets or programmes;*
- 2. The teacher:*
 - very briefly lead in to the trailers , asking students if they have seen the movies;*
 - plays both trailers, asking some questions such as deciding which film they would be more likely to choose to watch. Learners report their answers in a short discussion together;*
- 3. For more understanding of the movies, in groups students read very short reviews of the chosen movies;*
- 4. Together, with the teacher’s support, the learners discuss the key characteristics of trailers, such as: their shortness; the aim to provoke the interest in the audience; conveying of the genre; introduction the main characters and the outlining of the intriguing story;*
- 5. The tutor explains the learners that the book or the story that they have read is going to be made into a movie. Their task is to design a trailer for it;*

6. *Students, in small groups start working. The teacher should support them by answering to questions, about characters and how should they be introduced; which key scenes will be used to give an idea of the story; what sort of music will be used, etc.*
7. *After an appropriate amount of time, students share their ideas. They should look for similarities and differences in the different suggestions for trailers.*
8. *Finally, if the chosen book or story has already been filmed, the teacher plays the official trailer for students to compare their ideas with those of the movie's team.*

Tips for trainers

- *Choose movies which would be interesting for the students. It is important to know your target students' profiles because what interests one group of learners may seem dull for another group.*
- *Provide several leaflets from local cinemas;*
- *At the stage 2 and 3, the tutor should give proper instructions of the questions for gist.*
- *During stage 6 the teacher should monitor the activities and support the learners while they're working.*

Resources

- *Trailers for movies;*
- *Brief reviews of movies.*

Evaluation/Feedback

- | | | |
|---|-----|----|
| 1. <i>Did you find the activity interesting?</i> | Yes | No |
| 2. <i>Was it difficult to design the trailer?</i> | Yes | No |