FROM SCREEN TO SCENE

Talk about films. Discover the language. Sell your own story.

Film talk, in a nutshell A **genre** is a type of film. The **plot** is its story. The **cast** are the actors. A film can have more than one genre: give a reason for your choice.

1 The picture premiere

Match each picture A–F to a genre. Use each genre once. Can you name the films?

horror, animation, romance, science fiction, musical, adventure



Genre: _____



Genre: _____



Genre: _____



Genre: _____



Genre: _____



Genre: _____

Pair chat: Which picture makes you want to watch the film? Why?

2 Behind the screen

Complete the clues with the words below. Use each word once.

review, script, cast, special effects, subtitles, sequel, plot, soundtrack

1 All the actors together.

2 The events that make up the story.

3 The music you hear in the film.

4 A new film that continues an earlier story.

5 The written dialogue and scene instructions.

6 Written dialogue shown on the screen.

7 An opinion that helps you decide what to watch.

8 Created images, such as a computer-made dragon.

Artwork: AI-generated film-inspired illustrations; not official film stills.

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GREENLIGHT!

Your film. Your pitch. One unexpected problem.



A A bakery in space



B The wedding detective



C The dragon bus driver

3 Build a better pitch

is set in = story place/time · **was shot in** = filming location
is based on = source of the story · **stars** = has as a main actor

Complete this invented film pitch. Use each bold phrase above once.

Our film 1 _____ a famous book. The story 2 _____ a city in 2050.

It 3 _____ a real studio last summer. It 4 _____ a brilliant young actor.

4 The studio challenge

Pairs or groups of three. You are a film team. Other teams are the producers: they decide which film gets made. No dice or film knowledge needed.

PLAN Choose a picture above, or invent an idea. Agree on a title, genre, setting, two main characters and one big problem. Add a surprise ending!

PITCH Tell the producers about your film. Use at least four words from task 2 and two phrases from task 3. Everyone in your team must speak.

TWIST Producers choose one problem below. The team discusses the problem, then explains how the film will change.

VOTE Ask each team a follow-up question. Vote for another team: clearest story, most creative solution, best use of film language. Explain your choices.

THE TWISTS A Your star quits. B You lose half your money.
C The film must now be a musical. D You must add a talking animal.

Help! “It’s about…” “The main character…” “To solve this, we’ll…”
One-to-one: take turns as film team and producer. Pitch a second, improved version.

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THE FINAL CUT

Answer key & teaching notes

FL1 / B1 / Adults & older teens / 50–60 minutes
Aim: describe films and collaborate on a persuasive pitch.
Preparation: print pages 1–2 for learners; keep page 3 for the teacher.

1 The picture premiere

Suggested genre matches
A animation · B adventure · C musical · D science fiction · E horror · F romance

Film inspirations, in picture order
A The Lion King · B Jurassic Park · C La La Land · D Star Wars
E The Shining · F Titanic

The genre match is the main task; recognising film titles is optional. Accept other well-supported genres, such as science fiction for B or drama for F. These are interpretive illustrations, so do not require students to identify a particular scene.

2 Behind the screen

1 cast, 2 plot, 3 soundtrack, 4 sequel, 5 script, 6 subtitles, 7 review, 8 special effects

3 Build a better pitch

1 is based on, 2 is set in, 3 was shot in, 4 stars

Check the distinction between the fictional setting and the real filming location. The pitch is invented; it makes no factual claims about an existing film.

4 Run the studio challenge

Timings: task 1, 8 min; task 2, 10 min; task 3, 8 min; task 4, 20 min. For the game: plan, 3 min; pitch, 60 sec per team; twist, 20 sec to think and 30 sec to respond; vote, 2 min. Model a short pitch first. Teams make brief notes. Producers ask a question and give positive feedback.

Optional finish (3–5 min): recommend a real film in 30 seconds, using three target words. Partners ask one follow-up question. All speaking answers are open.

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