

Talk a Lot

Films – Which film would you rent?

Student A

Ask and answer questions to complete the gaps, and find out information about four films. Which film would you rent for a night in with... a) your partner, b) your friends? Why?

	The Pirate	Ye Yan (The Night Banquet)
Director	Vincente Minnelli	
Main Actors		Ziyi Zhang, You Ge
Genre		historical drama
Plot	A young woman falls in love with a famous pirate, who is really just an actor	
Country / Language		China / Mandarin
Year of Release	1948	
Awards and Nominations		Hong Kong Film Award (Best Supporting Actress)

	Central do Brasil (Central Station)	Shaun of the Dead
Director	Walter Salles	Edgar Wright
Main Actors		
Genre	drama	zombie romantic comedy
Plot		Shaun becomes a hero by defeating an army of the undead
Country / Language		UK / English
Year of Release		
Awards and Nominations	Golden Berlin Bear (Best Director), Silver Condor (Best Foreign Film)	

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Student B

Ask and answer questions to complete the gaps, and find out information about four films. Which film would you rent for a night in with... a) your partner, b) your friends? Why?

	The Pirate	Ye Yan (The Night Banquet)
Director		Xiaogang Feng
Main Actors	Judy Garland, Gene Kelly	
Genre	musical	
Plot		An adaptation of Hamlet, set in China in 907 AD during the Tang Dynasty
Country / Language	USA / English	
Year of Release		2006
Awards and Nominations	Oscar® nominated (Best Music)	

	Central do Brasil (Central Station)	Shaun of the Dead
Director		
Main Actors	Fernanda Montenegro, Marília Pêra	Simon Pegg, Nick Frost
Genre		
Plot	An emotional journey taken by a 9 year-old boy in search of his father	
Country / Language	Brazil / Portuguese and German	
Year of Release	1998	2004
Awards and Nominations		Empire Award (Best British Film), BAFTA (Best British Film)

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Films

Information Exchange

Answers

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Task: "Ask and answer questions to complete the gaps, and find out information about four films. Which film would you rent for a night in with... a) your partner, b) your friends? Why?"

	The Pirate	Ye Yan (The Night Banquet)
Director	Vincente Minnelli	Xiaogang Feng
Main Actors	Judy Garland, Gene Kelly	Ziyi Zhang, You Ge
Genre	musical	historical drama
Plot	A young woman falls in love with a famous pirate, who is really just an actor	An adaptation of Hamlet, set in China in 907 AD during the Tang Dynasty
Country / Language	USA / English	China / Mandarin
Year of Release	1948	2006
Awards and Nominations	Oscar® nominated (Best Music)	Hong Kong Film Award (Best Supporting Actress)

	Central do Brasil (Central Station)	Shaun of the Dead
Director	Walter Salles	Edgar Wright
Main Actors	Fernanda Montenegro, Marília Pêra	Simon Pegg, Nick Frost
Genre	drama	zombie romantic comedy
Plot	An emotional journey taken by a 9 year-old boy in search of his father	Shaun becomes a hero by defeating an army of the undead
Country / Language	Brazil / Portuguese and German	UK / English
Year of Release	1998	2004
Awards and Nominations	Golden Berlin Bear (Best Director), Silver Condor (Best Foreign Film)	Empire Award (Best British Film), BAFTA (Best British Film)

"Which film would you rent...?" Answers will vary. Ensure that students produce reasons for their choices, and why they rejected the other films. They could also think of other people that they would watch each film with, and why. For example: "I would watch Shaun of the Dead with my boyfriend, because he loves horror films...!" etc.

Sample Questions

Who directed _____?
 Who are the main actors in _____?
 Who stars in _____?
 What kind of film is _____?
 What is _____ about?
 Tell me the plot of _____.
 Which country does _____ come from?
 Which language is _____ in?
 When was _____ released?
 Has _____ won any awards?
 Which awards has _____ won?

Sample Answers

_____ directed _____.
 The main actors in _____ are _____.
 _____ star in _____.
 It's a _____.
 It's... / _____ is about _____.
 _____.
 It comes from _____.
 It's in _____.
 It was released in _____.
 Yes, _____ has won _____ / No, but it was nominated for...
 It's won _____ / It hasn't won any awards.

Examples

Who stars in Shaun of the Dead?
 What is Ye Yan about?
 When was Central do Brasil released?
 Has The Pirate won any awards?

Simon Pegg and Nick Frost star in Shaun of the Dead.
 It's an adaptation of Hamlet, set in China in 907 AD...
 It was released in 1998.
 No, but it was nominated for an Oscar® for Best Music.

[etc.]

Extension: you could try to encourage some comparative/superlative questions and sentences too, for example:

Which film is **the oldest**? The Pirate is **the oldest**.
 The Pirate is a musical, **whereas** Sean of the Dead is a zombie romantic comedy. [etc.]

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