

Live Lesson Notes

Movies / Films

What you will learn in this worksheet:

1. Useful links
 2. Different genres of movie
 3. Vocabulary to talk about movies
 4. How to recommend a movie
 5. Idioms to talk about movies
-

Some useful Links

IELTS Speaking Success - Get a Band 7+ GOLD online course
courses.keithspeakingacademy.com/p/ielts-speaking-get-band-7-gold

Learn about **different types** of films
<https://www.premiumbeat.com/blog/guide-to-basic-film-genres/>

Lots of awesome **film vocabulary**
<https://www.nfi.edu/movie-genres/>

Get a 10% discount off a full **MOCK IELTS TEST** with Preptical
<https://ielts.preptical.com/the-fastest-way-to-become-ielts-ready/?ref=6970>

Find a teacher on **italki**
<https://bit.ly/IELTSSpeakingitalki>

Free live lesson PDFs here
<https://keithspeakingacademy.com/ielts-speaking-free-live-lessons/>

Follow me on **social media**
<https://www.facebook.com/keithspeakingacademy>
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiVm8XcbwS8-pcDEa5lFXIA>

IELTS Speaking: Types / genre of movies

If you want to talk confidently about movies in the IELTS Speaking test, you will need to know different types of films, be able to describe, the setting, characters, plot and even soundtrack.

Let's look first at different genres and how to say which one we like.

Movies (U.S.) (go to the movies / watch movies)

Films (G.B.) (go to the cinema / watch films)

When talking about a film we often use the **noun in the plural**

I like _____

- **Comedies** (funny, hilarious, humorous)
- **Thrillers** (exciting, full of suspense)
- **Dramas**
- **Period Dramas** (e.g. Pride and Prejudice)
- **Mysteries** (intriguing, exciting)
- **Romances** (endearing, full of emotion, soppy = too soft and romantic, cheesy = low quality or stereotypical, cliché = unoriginal or overused)
- **Romcoms** (romantic comedies)

We can also use **adjectives** (these need to be followed by 'film' or 'movie')

I like **romantic** films

I love **horror** films

- **Sci Fi** films
- **Adventure** movies
- **Historical** films
- **Fantasy** films
- **Crime** movies

Here are some other ways of saying you like something.

- I am **big on** _____
- I am **keen on** _____
- I am a **big fan of** _____
- I am **fond of** _____
- I am **really into** _____
- I'm **partial to** _____
- I'm a **die hard fan of** _____

More information about different film genres.

IELTS Speaking TIP: Learn to paraphrase

It's important to be able to paraphrase (= *to say something in a different way*) in IELTS Speaking.

Don't worry if you don't know the name of the film in English, or you can't remember the actor's name - just find a way to explain your idea.

Here are some useful expressions you can use to paraphrase in this case.

I don't know the name in English, but in Spanish it is _____

If I am not mistaken, it's called _____

If my memory serves me right, I think in English it's called _____ or something like that.

If I remember correctly, I think in English it's called _____ or something like that.

I can't quite remember the actor's name but he was great...

It's on the tip of my tongue

To be on the tip of your tongue = something you almost remember, but cannot speak out.

IELTS Speaking Vocabulary: Talking about Movies

The Setting

The setting is where and when the film happens. Here are the most common ways of expressing this.

It's set in space

It's set in the 15th century

It's set during the first world war

To be set = to take place

The Characters

The **main character** is a the most important person in the film.

“The main character is a boy who was bit by a spider”

A **protagonist** (*hero/heroine* of the story)

An **antihero / antiheroine** - a main character who does **not** have the expected qualities of a hero such as brave, strong and beautiful.

A **antagonist** (*villain*) - baddie, the bad person

The Soundtrack

Some good adjectives to describe the soundtrack include the following

- engaging, catchy
- enchanting
- impressive
- upbeat, lively

The Plot

Plot (n.) = storyline

Here are some good adjectives and phrases to describe the plot of a movie.

fast-paced

intricate, complex,

it has a plot with twists and turns

over-complicated (too much, negative)

intriguing (makes you curious)

full of suspense,

It keeps you on your toes

It has a twist at the end = *an unexpected ending*

It has amazing **stunts**

I love the **frantic car chases**

A sequel - the follow up movie (e.g. A Quiet Place: Part 2)

Film popularity

We can use the following phrases to say whether a film has been successful or not.

An **award-winning** film (e.g. 'Parasite' from Korea)

It's a **blockbuster** = very successful

It's a **box-office hit** = made a lot of money

It was a **flop** = unsuccessful

The movie **flopped** = it was unsuccessful

More useful vocabulary to talk about movies

IELTS Speaking: Making recommendations

Here are some common ways you can make a recommendation in English.

You **should** watch Spiderman

If I were you, I would watch Spiderman

- I **recommend you** watch Spiderman
- I **suggest you** watch Spiderman
- I recommend **watching** Superman
- I suggest **watching** Superman

It's worth watching

It's well worth watching

NOTICE: You'd better watch Superman

...this is not a recommendations it is an order or a threat.
If you don't do it, something bad will happen!

IELTS Speaking: Idioms to talk about movies

A film buff = a fan of films

I am a real film buff

The big screen = the screen at the cinema

*I like to see films **on the big screen**, rather than on my laptop*

To be on the edge of your seat = *to be excited and really engaged in something*

I was on the edge of my seat watching this film

A cliffhanger = an ending with suspense

The movie had a great cliffhanger, so now I am waiting for the sequel

Nail-biting (adj.) = very exciting

The film 'A Quiet Place' was a nail-biting thriller.