

Film Reviews – The Curriculum Fit

Citizenship

Most films aimed at this age-group include characters experiencing moments of crisis and moral dilemma and reflecting on this in a review would allow pupils to debate at least one or more elements of the following target: “**what makes a healthy lifestyle, including the benefits of exercise and healthy eating, what affects mental health, and how to make informed choices**”. In addition film is an ideal vehicle with which students can “**talk and write about their opinions, and explain their views, on issues that affect themselves and society**” and “**reflect on spiritual, moral, social, and cultural issues, using imagination to understand other people's experiences.**” Through watching and analysing films from different countries and culture, pupils will “**think about the lives of people living in other places and times, and people with different values and customs.**”

English

A film review has possibly its most natural place in **English lessons Key Stage 2**. A good review can represent a range of **writing** purposes including:

- Communicating with others
- Exploring experience
- Organising and explaining information

It is best that any review writing should be supported by **speaking and listening** with students describing and discussing their films in groups and whole-class settings. This would be an occasion to demonstrate key critical terms and help scaffold the shaping of their views into a coherent narrative.

Modern Foreign Languages

The curriculum requires that students are: **taught about other countries and cultures by working with authentic materials and also that they should be encouraged to consider their own culture and compare it with others while considering the experiences of other people**. All of these objectives could be met by Key Stage 2 pupils watching a well-chosen foreign language film and then reflecting on it in a brief film review.