Teacher's Notes: e-lesson for week commencing 25 January 2010

Worksheet and Teacher's Notes by Pete Sharma

The business of film

Level

Intermediate

Tasks

Discussing a number of films
Scanning an article and replacing the missing film titles
Reading an article about the film *Avatar*
Identifying words in the article from their definitions
Preparing and giving a presentation to raise money to make a film

How to use the lesson

1 Ask students if anyone has seen *Avatar*. Hand out the worksheet and ask students to talk about this and the other films in the box. Students discuss the films in pairs. Elicit feedback about which films the students enjoyed and why.

2 Students scan the article and replace the missing names of the films.

Answers

(1) Avatar	*(2) Titanic*	*(3) A Christmas Carol*
(4) The Blair Witch Project	*(5) Paranormal Activity*	*(6) Spider Man 3*

3 Students read the whole article. Ask them to tell you what the critics have said about *Avatar*. You may wish to look at any useful vocabulary, such as: *staggering / catch up / cult / cynic / gamble.*

4 Ask students to identify the words in the article from their definitions.

Answers

4.1 avatar	*4.2 blockbuster*	*4.3 grossing*
4.4 plot	*4.5 genres*	*4.6 will pay off*

5 Divide students into small groups to prepare their presentations. Monitor and support as necessary. Encourage the use of visual aids such an OHT or PowerPoint if available. When they have finished, each group should present their pitch to the rest of the class. Encourage questions from the audience. After each presentation, if appropriate, ask the group of investors to decide if they would give the money or not. Finally, give language feedback.

Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avatar_(2009_film)
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/click_online/8421468.stm
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/8285187.stm
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/3-D_film
http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0499549/

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