

Conversations: Talking about Movies (A)

- 1** **Movie genres** How many different kinds of movies can you write in English? Make a list in the box below.

Movie Genres
Action



- 2** Look at the table below.

Movie Title	Place	Time	Actors
Titanic	on a ship		Leonardo DiCaprio
From Russia with Love	in Turkey	in the 1960s	
Casablanca			Humphrey Bogart
Gladiator	in Rome	in the 1 st century AD	
Bridget Jones's Diary			Rene Zellweger and Hugh Grant

Ask your partner questions to find the missing information. Use the following question and answer format:

- | | | |
|-----------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Place | Where is it set? | It's set (in New York). |
| 2) Time | When is it set? | It's set (in the 1950s). |
| 3) Actors | Who's in it? | It stars (Brad Pitt). |

Write the answers in the spaces. If you can't spell a word, ask: "How do you spell that?"

- 3** **Writing Practice** Think of a great movie you have seen. Write a few sentences about it below. Don't write the movie's title!

- 4** **Speaking Practice** Read your movie description to your partner. Can your partner guess the movie title?

Conversations: Talking about Movies (B)

- 1** **Movie genres** How many different kinds of movies can you write in English? Make a list in the box below.

Movie Genres
Action



- 2** Look at the table below.

Movie Title	Place	Time	Actors
Titanic	on a ship	in 1912	
From Russia with Love			Sean Connery
Casablanca	in Morocco	during the Second World War	
Gladiator			Russell Crowe
Bridget Jones's Diary	in the UK	in modern times	

Ask your partner questions to find the missing information. Use the following question and answer format:

- | | | |
|-----------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Place | Where is it set? | It's set (in New York). |
| 2) Time | When is it set? | It's set (in the 1950s). |
| 3) Actors | Who's in it? | It stars (Brad Pitt). |

Write the answers in the spaces. If you can't spell a word, ask: "How do you spell that?"

- 3** **Writing Practice** Think of a great movie you have seen. Write a few sentences about it below. Don't write the movie's title!

- 4** **Speaking Practice** Read your movie description to your partner. Can your partner guess the movie title?

Conversations: Talking about Movies

Teacher's Notes

Target Structure:	None
Vocabulary:	Movies / Expressions of Time (American English Version)
Level:	Elementary / Pre-intermediate
Time:	30 minutes
Preparation:	None

Suggested Teaching Method.

Talking about movies is great as a warm-up activity for lower-level students. However, these students often lack the ability to talk about it in a simple, yet understandable way. This worksheet provides extensive practice of some of the most common expressions used when talking about film.

Note that there are two different worksheets, A and B. This is for exercise two, which has an information gap activity.

- 1 Follow the instructions on the worksheet. Students should work alone, and then check in pairs.
- 2 Follow the instructions. Explain to the students that the worksheets have different information, and that students should *not* look at their partner's sheet.

Below the table there are some questions and answers that can be used for this exercise. Chorus these with your students. Practice with a competent student, using a movie not mentioned in this worksheet. (e.g. Star Wars / in space / a long time ago / Mark Hamil). Students should then work in pairs, filling in the table with the missing information.

- 3 This gives students a chance to personalize the language, using movies they like.

If this is proving too easy, you can add some other useful language used for describing movies. You could try these two examples

- 1) Director: *It was directed by ...*
- 2) Opinion: *This movie is great / thrilling / violent / a load of rubbish ...*
- 3) Miscellaneous phrases: *It has a good twist. / It's very atmospheric etc.*

- 4 Follow instructions as given. Monitor carefully, and make a note of some mistakes that you hear. At the end of the exercise, write some sentences on the board, and elicit correction.

If you're looking for extra material, a discussion on movies really can't go wrong.

Answer Key

Movie Title	Place	Time	Actors
Titanic	on a ship	in 1912	Leonardo DiCaprio
From Russia with Love	in Turkey	in the 1960s	Sean Connery
Casablanca	in Morocco	during the Second World War	Humphrey Bogart
Gladiator	in Rome	in the 1 st century AD	Russell Crowe
Bridget Jones's Diary	in the UK	in modern times	Rene Zellweger and Hugh Grant

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