

Topic: Movies

Let's get started . . Did you watch movies as a child? If so, what were your favorite movies? If you didn't watch movies, what were your favorite stories, and how did you learn them?

Story: The movie **Namesake** tells the story of a Bangladeshi couple that moves to the U.S. and raises two children. As the son and daughter become teenagers, a culture gap and a generation gap develop. The parents maintain their Bangladeshi traditions and hope that their children will marry Bangladeshi spouses. But the teens have grown up American and are not interested in marrying Bangladeshi spouses. The son, *Gogol*, is the main character. As Gogol enters his twenties, he begins to view his family and national traditions positively. The movie tells the story of his changing attitudes.



Many immigrants to the U.S. say that raising teenagers in America is very difficult. What are your thoughts on this subject?



In pairs for 10 minutes, ask and answer this question:

What is a movie that you really like? Describe it and why you like it. (Don't give away the ending.)

Share your partner's answers with the group.

Interview 3 people in your class about movie genres. Write down their names and their answers. Then ask "why do you like them?"

What is your name?	Do you like documentaries? 	Do you like dramas? 	Do you like musicals? 	Do you like comedies? 

Discussion Questions - talk in pairs or small groups:

Who are your favorite actors and actresses? Why?

How often do you see a movie? Do you like to watch movies in a theater or at home, with family, friends or by yourself? Do you rent or buy movies, or borrow from the library or friends? Give examples of movies you watched in the last year.

What movie would you recommend for:

... a 5-year old

... a teenager

... young adults

... older adults

What is a popular film in your native country? Do you recommend it?

Tell about a movie made in your native culture. What will it teach about your native culture?



What do you think about how movies are rated in America? (G, PG, PG-13, R, NC-17) Is there a movie rating system in your native country? How do you decide what movie to watch?

Do you usually eat food while watching movies? What are popular foods to eat while watching a movie?

If someone made a movie about your life, what kind of movie would it be? Would it be a happy movie? A funny movie? A very serious movie? A scary movie? A sad movie? Who would the characters be?

New vocabulary: raised children, culture gap, generation gap, maintain, attitudes, subject, give away the ending, documentary, drama, musical, comedy, recommend, rating system, violent

Keep talking about it this week: Ask someone to tell you about their favorite movies. Write down their response and be ready to share with the group at the next Talk Time.

More about "The Namesake" at:

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=1415693>