

Talk Time Topic: Movies

Let's get started...

What are you doing this Friday or Saturday night? Are you going to the movies? What movie will you see? What theater will you go to? What time will you go? Where will you get information about the movie?

Background:

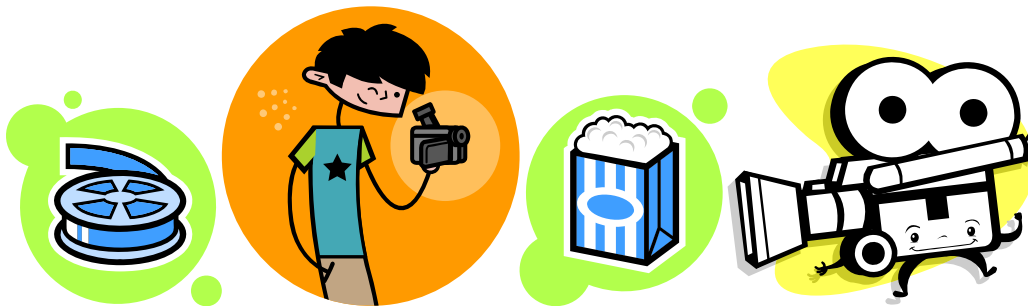
Ever since movies were first made, people have been going to movie theaters to watch them. Movie theaters are also called cinemas. The first American movie theater was made in 1896. Today, there are over 32 movie theater companies that own hundreds of movie theaters around the country! There are at least eight different movie theaters on the Eastside, each showing up to ten movies at a time. You can get information about movie plots, times, locations, and prices in the newspaper or on websites like www.fandango.com.



In pairs for 5 minutes, ask and answer these questions:

- What's your favorite movie?
- What is the movie about?
- Did you see it in a movie theater?
- How many times have you seen it?
- What do you like about it?

Share your partner's answers with the group.



Discussion Questions:

When is the last time you went to a movie theater? What movie did you watch? How much did the movie ticket cost?

How much does a movie ticket cost in your native country? Is it popular to go to the movies?

What is a popular film in your native country? Are American films or another country's films popular in your native country?

Have you ever been to a movie theater in America? How was it different from a movie theater in your native country?

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? What happens if children try to sneak in to movies they are too young to watch?

Do you think that American films are too violent? How about films in your native country?

In America, do you buy any snacks at the movie theater? Do you think the snacks are too expensive? Is it common or acceptable to eat during movies in your native country? What kinds of food do people eat?

In America, a lot of people bring their own snacks into the theatre, even though they are not supposed to. In your native country, what happens if you bring in food that you didn't buy at the theater?

Which do you prefer: going to the movie theater or renting videos? Why?

What is your favorite movie genre? (comedy, drama, action, romance, thriller, horror, western, musical, animation (cartoon or computer graphics) etc.)

Do you like movie previews? Why or why not?

If someone is talking during a movie, what do you do? If your friend is talking to you during a movie, what do you do?

Which do you prefer: going to a movie in the morning, afternoon, or night?

Who is your favorite actor or actress? Why? Which of their movies do you like?

If you were an actor, what kind of movie would you want to be in? What other actors would you want to work with?

In America, do you think actors and actresses get paid too much money? What about in your native country?

Which do you prefer: plays or movies? Why? Have you been to a play in America? What did you think? Are plays common in your native country?

New words and Idioms:

theater, cinema, plot, location, price, movie rating system, rated, sneak in, acceptable, renting, genre, cartoon, computer graphics, previews, play