

## THE VALUE OF MOVIES IN EDUCATION

**Dilnura Atadjanova,**

*Trainee teacher, Nukus State Pedagogical Institute,  
Uzbekistan, Nukus*

**Abstract:** This article examines the importance of engaging activities that make useful contributions to the improvement of educational process such as films. Movies are not only shown for the enjoyment of the people but also many beneficial sides are taken into consideration. Language skills mainly, reading and listening can be improved by means of subtitles as learners can read and listen the pronunciation of the words simultaneously.

**Key words:** films, movie, engaging, activity, language skills.

People can be entertained by many activities that make useful contributions to the improvement of educational process such as exciting films. Movies are not only shown for the enjoyment of the people but also many beneficial sides are taken into consideration. In the classroom learners should not feel the sense of boredom while doing topic-based activities so that the various ways of teaching should be used by the teacher. It can be helpful to check the ability of the educators how they conduct the lesson in an interactive way. In order to engage students actively movies can be the best way of attract them to the lesson. Academic value of films includes some crucial features for instance, language learning, cultural and historical significance, the ways of communication, memory performance, and others.

Language learning. It is essential to say that movies are easily accessed and screened nowadays, provide more chances for English teachers to use audio-visual media in teaching various language skills to their EFL students [1]. In EFL classes showing films have many advantageous sides, chiefly learning new words with subtitles of the movies. Moreover, language skills mainly, reading and listening can be improved by means of subtitles as learners can read and listen the pronunciation of the words simultaneously. As Ismail mentioned that movies can be used in the teaching reading because so many movies are adapted from literary works, this is especially so if captions in the target language are provided [2:217]. Undoubtedly, most movies are based on history and literature that assist to

develop viewers' reading ability with the help of captions and subtitles. Apart from those that mentioned above watching films are helpful to advance knowledge on grammar with some reasons. Zhang urged that linguistic items grammar and vocabulary are basis for knowledge of a language since grammatical competence is an essential communicative competence which means that in communicating, grammar is vital for clarifying messages and ideas. In addition to this knowledge of vocabulary is also essential just like grammar [3:184-187]. English movies are based on different topics so that topic-based vocabulary words are utilized. By means of gripping events of the films new words can be learned according to the context. Even if students' comprehension does not demand dictionaries because of the sequence of thrilling actions. Admittedly, using films in foreign language classes brings about a plethora of benefits not only for learners but also teachers too.

Cultural and historical significance. In order to be aware of other countries' culture or history is not necessary to visit there as films are dedicated to the true events give a chance to learn more about them. If viewers watch cultural products such as traditions, feelings, beliefs and others, more indispensable data will be collected. Yalcin referred that films are windows into culture with a rich source of cultural events and are chosen for the purpose of learning or teaching a foreign or second language may enable us to observe varying patterns of human behaviors, including thoughts, beliefs, values, customs, courtesies, rituals, manners of interacting, etc. [4:265]. Undoubtedly, they provide people with ample opportunities to know about the culture.

Communication. Good communication skills are vital for individuals so that they are shown in various movies. Learning the ways of communicating is full of benefits as people can learn communication ethics, barriers, public speaking, interviewing etc. Besides, Champoux said that film has unique characteristics that are ideal for highlighting communication. To illustrate, close up shots of faces allow people to view complex emotions and non-verbal cues that they would

ordinarily miss when looking at a person in real life. Similarly, shot/reverse shot editing techniques allow people to see both parties in a conversation, giving more images than in real life where we would be unlikely to shift our position to face each person as they speak [5]. When watching a film, we listen attentively each actor's speech how she or he treats to another person in a specific way. Giving appropriate answer to the speaker's questions reinforces understanding for the viewers and improves communicative skills. Good manner and mannerisms absorb people completely in order to acquire skill in communication and give guidance to behave them politely when connecting with foreigners.

Memory performance. It is widely known that memory ability can be strengthened by virtue of plentiful activities. Perhaps, making use of techniques, repetition, listening or watching that are helpful tools to memorize something new. Notably, people with visual abilities can memorize actions, names of characters or places, the words, events without any challenges when viewing. For example, if viewers watch genres of movies such as science fiction, comedy, fantasy, or horror in English language, merits are possessed by them. Because, lots of topic-related vocabulary is enriched and terminologies, informal language, the ways of interaction are learned. As a result, more crucial information can be received and utilized in necessary places such as in the process of learning target languages.

To conclude, the educational value of movies has great significance in learning and teaching process, gaining cultural and historical knowledge and learning good communication skills. Moreover, increasing memory ability and critical thinking by watching have advantageous sides for those who are enthusiastic about acquiring the knowledge of life.

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*Bul dunyaniñ kórki adam balası*  
*Ájiniyaz*

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