

Name that film! – Teacher’s notes

Level: Beginner (equivalent to CEF level A1)

Aim: Students read film descriptions and guess the titles of the films then make up their own descriptions to play a guessing game.

Grammar: The lesson recycles grammar from *Straightforward* Beginner Units 7 and 8: *there is / there are*, subject & object pronouns as well as *was / were*.

Skills: Worksheet 1 can be used as a reading or a listening activity. The lesson can practise all four skills.

Preparation: Make one copy of Worksheet 1 for the teacher and one copy of Worksheet 2 for each student. Worksheet 1 can be used as a listening activity in which the teacher reads out the film descriptions or as a reading activity in which the students read the film descriptions from an overhead projector (OHP).

Lead in:

1. Think of a famous film and play a hangman game with the students. You may want to extend this activity by playing several games if the students are enjoying it.
2. Ask the students if they remember any information about the films on page 68 of the *Straightforward* Beginner Student’s Book. Try to encourage the students to work from memory but they can refer to the book if necessary. The films are *King Kong*, *Mission: Impossible*, *Charlie’s Angels* and *Godzilla*.
3. Write the following gap-fill sentences on the board and ask the students to copy and complete the sentences using *was* or *were*. This is best done as a pairwork activity.
 - Charlie’s Angels _____ a television programme of the 1970s.
 - The ‘Angels’ _____ three women detectives.
 - Gojira _____ a Japanese film from 1954.
 - The Mission Impossible films _____ very popular.

Activity:

1. Decide if you would like to use Worksheet 1 as a reading or a listening activity. Read the first film description or allow the students to read it from the OHP. Make sure you cover up the second description in the game format if using an OHP. The students guess the film title. **Answer:** *Monsters, Inc.*
2. Tell the students that they are going to play a guessing game. They have to guess the name of the film by reading or listening to clues. Divide the students into teams. Explain that if they guess the name of the film after the first clue they get 5 points, after two clues they get 4 points, etc. Play the game using the game format on Worksheet 1. **Answer:** *Casablanca*
3. **Pairwork or groupwork activity.** Put the students into pairs or small groups to form teams. You may want to keep the same groups as before. Give each student a copy of Worksheet 2 and ask them to think of two famous films and write the titles in the spaces provided.

4. In groups or pairs the students write sentences about the films in their notebooks, then grade them from easy to difficult and write them in order from *most difficult to easiest* on the Worksheet. This will give you an opportunity to check their work and give individual attention to those who need it.
5. The students then play the guessing game. The teacher should act as referee and points keeper.

Extra idea: You could extend the activity by preparing more examples of your own in the game format. This is useful as a tiebreaker. If the group is strong they could continue to play the game 'live' with no preparation.