

Film Approval Request

School: Union High School
Department: English
Course: Young Adult Literature
Grade Level: 11-12

Title: Goonies
Year: 1985
Director: Richard Donner
Rating: PG

Summary of Plot:

In order to save their home from foreclosure, a group of misfits set out to find a pirate's ancient treasure.

Rationale for Usage: The movie is used to help students understand the idea of fantasy

Film Approval Request

School: Union High School

Department: English

Course: AP Literature

Grade Level: 11

Title: Tom Jones

Year: 1965 won Academy Award for Best Picture

Director: Tony Richardson

Rating: G

Summary of Plot: (from Henry Fielding novel)

No one has ever lived so freely and carelessly as Tom Jones. Abandoned at birth and raised by a wealthy squire, Tom romps through English society, leading a lusty life of brawling and bed-hopping until his bawdy behavior causes him to be sent away from his family and the only woman he's ever truly loved. Will Tom's charm save him or will the gallows be the last swing?

Rationale for Usage:

The AP students read the novel by Fielding for class. The movie helps students better visualize plot and concepts.

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School: Union High School

Department: English

Course: Young Adult Literature

Grade Level: 11-12

Title: Divergent

Year: 2014

Director: Neil Burger

Rating: PG-13

Summary of Plot:

In a world where the population is divided into factions by personality types, Tris Prior (Shailene Woodley) is classified as Divergent. When she uncovers a conspiracy to eliminate all Divergents, she teams with the mysterious Four (Theo James) to find out what makes the powers-that-be so frightened of them.

Rationale for Usage: When teaching dystopic literature, I use the video to help students visualize a dystopian society such as the one in the Uglies, Pretties and Specials series.

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School: Union High School

Department: English

Course: Young Adult Literature

Grade Level: 11-12

Title: Perks of Being a Wallflower

Year: 2012

Director: Ezra Miller

Rating: PG-13

Summary of Plot: (from critically acclaimed book of same name)

Based on the best-selling novel by Stephen Chbosky, THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER is a modern classic that captures the dizzying highs and crushing lows of growing up. Starring Logan Lerman, Emma Watson and Ezra Miller, THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER is a moving tale of love, loss, fear and hope-and the unforgettable friends that help us through life.

Rationale for Usage: We are reading the novel in my Young Adult Literature class. The movie is used to help students better understand plot and concepts and for comparison purposes.

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School: Union High School

Department: English

Course: Young Adult Literature

Grade Level: 11-12

Title: Labyrinth

Year: 1986

Director: Jim Henson

Rating: PG

Summary of Plot:

“George Lucas produced and Jim Henson directed this gothic fantasy which pits living and breathing actors Jennifer Connelly and David Bowie (who, along with Trevor Jones, provides the film's music) against a motley collection of Muppet monsters. The film centers upon teenage Sarah (Connelly), who lives in a fantasy world of myth and magic, evil spells, and wondrous enchantment. She is baby-sitting her little brother when she cavalierly wishes that goblins would take him away. She gets her wish, and a coterie of goblins abduct him. She then encounters Jareth (David Bowie), the ruler of a mystical world one step removed from reality. He tells Sarah that the only way to get her brother back is to find her way through a M.C. Escher-like labyrinth and find the castle at the center. As she makes her way through the maze, she faces a number of horrific challenges (like the Bog of Eternal Stench) before she finds her way to the gravity-defying castle, where her brother is being held by the evil goblins”

Rationale for Usage:

This is a great movie to help students understand the realm of the fantasy genre.