

44 Books and films

A Books

“I used to hate **literature**¹ at school, but now I read a lot. I started off with **fiction**². I read hundreds of **novels**³, mostly **thrillers**⁴ and **science fiction**⁵. My favourite **author**⁶ is John le Carré.

Recently, I've started reading quite a lot of **biographies**⁷, and even some **poetry**⁸. Two of my favourite **poets** are Antonio Machado and Federico García Lorca. They both wrote **poems** in the early 20th century.”

¹ serious and important writing

² stories about imaginary people and events

³ fiction books

⁴ exciting stories, often about crime

⁵ stories about the future

⁶ someone who writes books

⁷ stories of a person's life, written by another person

⁸ pieces of creative writing in short lines

B Films

How do you decide which films you are going to see?

If it's a **horror film** [a film that makes people frightened, e.g. *Dracula*], I usually go and see it. I love horror films.

For me, the **film director** [the person who tells the actors what to do, e.g. Spielberg] is the most important thing. I always go and see the **latest** film [the newest, most recent] by directors I really like such as Pedro Almodóvar.

I look to see **what's on** [what films are being shown at the cinema], and go to anything that I **fancy seeing** [want to see; *in/fm!*].

I'm not interested in films that are serious or **complicated** [difficult to understand]; I only go to the cinema for **entertainment** [things you see or do to enjoy yourself].

I like **comedies** [films that are funny] and especially **romantic comedies** [comedies that have a love story]. I'll go and see anything that Ashton Kutcher is in!

If a film gets good **reviews** [opinions in a newspaper or magazine], then I often go and see it.

If there's a big **star** [a famous actor] in it, then I am more likely to see it. I don't normally go and see films if I don't recognise the names of the **actors** [the people who are in films].

Language help

noun	person	verb
entertainment	entertainer	entertain
review	reviewer	review
acting	actor	act
directing	director	direct

Exercises

44.1 Find twelve more words, across or down, connected with books and films.

act

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L	I	T	E	R	A	T	U	R	E
P	E	S	A	U	T	H	O	R	T
A	C	T	O	R	N	R	G	D	R
C	H	F	I	C	T	I	O	N	E
T	A	P	U	R	F	L	S	F	V
E	N	O	V	E	L	L	T	I	I
P	O	E	T	R	Y	E	A	L	E
C	O	M	E	D	Y	R	R	M	W

44.2 Cross out one wrong word in each sentence. Write the correct word at the end.

- Many poems are around 300 pages. novels
- Cinema grew in popularity in the first half of the 20th year.
- I enjoy science fiction because I like stories about the past.
- What's happening at the cinema?
- We went to see the film because there was a good article in the newspaper.
- I've been reading a new autobiography of Alfred Hitchcock by Donald Spoto.
- Comedies should make people frightened.

44.3 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the word on the right.

- William Wordsworth is a very famous poet
- I thought the film was good
- Johnny Depp is one of my favourite
- My daughter wrote a lovely for her school magazine.
- I thought the in the film was a bit unnatural.
- I like him very much; he's a great
- I didn't agree with what the said.
- Who's your favourite ?

POETRY
ENTERTAIN
ACT
POETRY
ACT
ENTERTAIN
REVIEW
DIRECT

44.4 Complete the dialogue.

- A: What's ¹ on at the cinema?
- B: Er, there's the ² film by Fernando Meirelles. It only came out yesterday.
- A: Oh, the guy who ³ *City of God*. He's a very good ⁴, but I don't understand some of his films – they're a bit ⁵ for me. Anything else ⁶ ?
- B: Well, a couple of romantic ⁷, which may be fun. And they're showing *The Kite Runner* again.
- A: Oh, what's that?
- B: It's a film based on the ⁸ by Khaled Hosseini. It's a very good book. Do you ⁹ seeing that?
- A: Yeah, why not.

44.5

Over to you

Answer the questions. If possible, compare your answers with someone else.

- Do you read novels or poetry? If so, what do you like? Who are your favourite authors?
- Do you go to the cinema? If so, how do you decide which films to go and see?
- Do you often read film reviews?
- What are your favourite films? Who are your favourite actors?