

## Teaching English Language through Films

Kamiya Abdulkhakimova  
Language Center, KIMEP, Kazakhstan  
kamiya@kimep.kz

Murat Assylkozha, M.Ed.  
Language Center, KIMEP, Kazakhstan  
a.murat@kimep.kz

### Abstract

There is a growing emphasis on developing language learners as critical thinking individuals capable of working with various forms of language discourse. A particular challenge is the analysis of movies as texts and arming students with means of that in-depth analysis given the multidisciplinary and multidimensional approach to language learning and teaching at Kimep. Through applying Bloom's taxonomy to our understanding of the criteria of what we want language learners to acquire through films, we can see that the extent of using films as part of language learning extends far beyond the process of acquisition of a foreign language.

Learning a new language is a process that requires much conscientious effort on behalf of the students. Using movies in an environment where the first language of the audience is other than English makes it a challenging yet enjoyable experience that facilitates the learning process.

Learning the language of the films makes it even more challenging for the learners as they can both learn the syntax of filmmaking and grammar of particular films and apply their own understanding of the language of films and structure of its elements.

Film is an outstanding opportunity for students to improve their general knowledge of the world. The impact of films on the audience is very strong as students do not only merely watch them but discuss, analyze, read the related materials and write papers connected to films. All these activities develop language skills while simultaneously helping them to acquire the language of films. Through hands-on practice, students are able to apply the understanding of elements of film language to create their own cinematic discourse.

**Keywords:** Bloom's taxonomy; film language; critical analysis; filmmaking

### References

- Dalton-Puffer, C. (2007). *Discourse in content and language integrated learning (CLIL) classrooms*. Amsterdam, The Netherlands: John Benjamins.
- Dubeck, L., W., Moshier, S., E., & Boss, J., B. (1995). *Fantastic voyages: Learning science through science fiction films*. Las Vegas, NV.
- Wyse, D., Jones, R., Bradford, H., & Wolpert M. A. (2007) *Teaching English, language and literacy* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). New York City, NY: Routledge.