

Film Festival Season

Worksheet A

Introduction

Discussion

What kind of programmes do you watch on TV?

Do you ever watch films on video or DVD?

Do you ever go to the cinema?

What kind of films do you like?

What was the last film you saw?

Have you got a favourite film?

Does your country ever have film festivals?

In England, going to the cinema is one of the most popular leisure activities. Most towns have a cinema, usually one with several screens. These cinemas show all the big films from Hollywood in the USA, and a much smaller number from other countries. However, there are many festivals which show films that may normally not be shown at cinemas. The festivals last for several days and show many films.

You are going to find out about two festivals in England.

Reading / Listening 1

Look at these questions

1. In which cities are the festivals?

Leeds

London

Sunderland

Sheffield

2. What is the main difference between the two festivals?

Read or listen to the news article to find the answers

Text

Film Festival Season

In England it is currently film festival season. This week Sheffield **hosts** the International Documentary Festival, and next month there is the London Film Festival. Both festivals show new films from all around the world, with one **essential** difference. The London Film Festival shows fiction films, the Sheffield Festival shows factual films.

The Sheffield festival is now 11 years old, and it has grown from a small weekend festival into a week long festival that not only shows new documentary films, but also runs training **workshops** for new directors and has interviews with important film makers. Normally documentaries are only seen on TV, so, this festival, which shows the films in a modern cinema in Sheffield, is a great opportunity to see documentary films on **the big screen**.

There are films from all over the world, from Japan to Australia, from West Africa to Russia. In all, over 70 films are showing at the festival. The Chairman of the festival, Christopher Hird, says he is **proud** of how many different cultures and lives are represented in the film **schedule**.

The London Film Festival is a rather different affair. It has been running for nearly 50 years and it lasts for two weeks. The festival takes place in the largest cinemas in London and the **attendance figures** are high. It attracts many **glamorous** stars to the premieres of the bigger movies that are being shown in the festival.

The festival is an international **showcase** of cinema, but this year the opening and closing films are both British. The opening film is "Dirty Little Things" - a thriller set in the immigrant community in **contemporary** London. The final film is 'The Heart of Me' - a love story set in 1930s England, involving two sisters who are in love with the same man.

All in all, this is set to be a fabulous month for those who love to see the world up there on the big screen.

Worksheet B**Reading / Listening 2**

Choose the best answer

1. The Sheffield festival lasts...
 - a) two days
 - b) seven days
2. The Sheffield festival...
 - a) only shows films
 - b) offers films and other events
3. In England, it is common to find...
 - a) documentaries at the cinema
 - b) documentaries on the TV
4. The Sheffield festival takes place in...
 - a) one cinema only
 - b) several cinemas
5. The London Film Festival is...
 - a) bigger than the Sheffield festival
 - b) smaller than the Sheffield festival
6. The films at the London Festival are...
 - a) watched by a few people
 - b) watched by many people
7. At the London festival...
 - a) some famous people go to see the films
 - b) no-one who is famous goes to see the films
8. At this year's London festival the first film is...
 - a) from Hollywood
 - b) from Britain
9. At this year's London festival, the final film is...
 - a) a comedy
 - b) a romance
10. Which film would you prefer to watch?
 - a) Dirty Little Things
 - b) The Heart of Me

Worksheet C

Vocabulary

Match the words from the text with their definitions on the right.

hosts a special event where people share and develop ideas

essential to feel satisfaction about something you have done

workshops the large white area on which the film is shown

the big screen very important

proud to provide the space and equipment for a special event

schedule the number of people who go to an event

glamorous a time when something is presented in a positive way

attendance figures of the present day, now

showcase a timetable of events

contemporary more attractive or interesting than the normal thing

Worksheet D**Follow up – Writing and discussion****Writing a film review and planning a film festival**

1. a. Think of a film you have seen recently.

- What was it called?
- Who was in it?
- Who directed it?
- What type of film was it?
- What was the basic story?
- Did you like it?
- What was good about it?
 - -The story?
 - -The atmosphere?
 - -The acting?
- -The special effects?
- Would you recommend the film?

b. Use your answers to the questions to write a small review of the film.
Give your review to your teacher.

2. Look at the different reviews your teacher has given you. Work with your partner(s) and select some films (your teacher will tell you how many) for a new film festival in your local area.

- Where will you show the films?
 - At a cinema?
 - In a community centre?
 - Outdoors?
 - At school?
- Will your festival include other events?
 - Meet the stars?
 - Meet the directors?
 - Interviews?
 - Workshops on film making?
 - What will you call the festival?
 - How long will it be?
 - How much will the tickets cost?

Make a poster advertising your film festival

- Say where and when it is
- Say how much tickets are
- Give information about the films and events (make two sentence summaries from the reviews of the films you have chosen)

Look at the other posters. Which festival will you go to?