

Modern Classic Book & Movie Comparison Project

Assigned: August 8, 2017

Due: September 5

In this activity, you will explore matching texts—novels and the movies adapted from them—to develop your analytical strategies. You may choose Jaws, The Outsiders, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Something Wicked This Way Comes, or The Green Mile. You will use graphic organizers to draw comparisons and hypothesize about the effect of adaptation. You will analyze the differences between the two versions by citing specific adaptations in the film version, indicating the effect of each adaptation on the story, and deciding if you felt the change had a positive effect on the overall story. You will then design a new DVD cover and a related insert for the movie, reflecting your response to the movie version.

Your objectives:

- identify the characters, setting, plot, and resolution in a book and in the movie based upon the book.
- describe how the elements of the book and movie are alike and different.
- discuss the effects of and state preferences toward these similarities and differences.
- hypothesize reasons that movie makers altered characteristics from the book.
- design a DVD cover and booklet reflecting your response to the movie adaptation.

Materials:

- Copy of the book you have chosen
- Access to the film adaptation: 1975 Roy Scheider's "Jaws," 1983 Francis Ford Coppola's "The Outsiders," 1975 Milos Forman's "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," 1983 Jack Clayton's (Disney) "Something Wicked This Way Comes," or 1999 Frank Darabont's "The Green Mile"
- Empty DVD case
- Three graphic organizer handouts:
 - Focused Reading and Viewing Guide
 - Book and Movie Comparison/Contrast Guide
 - Thinking Critically about the Movie Adaptations: Preferences and Effects
- <http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/cd-dvd/>

The Process:

1. Choose a book
2. Read the book & complete the “focused reading guide”
3. Watch the movie & complete the “focused viewing guide”
4. Complete “Book and Movie Comparison/Contrast Guide”
5. Complete “Thinking Critically about the Movie Adaptations: Preferences and Effects”
6. Create a review, also called the Liner Notes
7. Create a DVD cover: “Movie Adaptation DVD Cover and Notes Project”

Focused Reading and Viewing Guide

Book Title:	Film Title:
Setting:	Setting:
Characters:	Characters:
Plot Events:	Plot Events:
Resolution:	Resolution:

Student Name _____

Book and Movie Comparison/Contrast Guide

Setting: Ways that the book and movie are the same include...	Setting: Ways that the book and movie are different include...
Characters: Ways that the book and movie are the same include...	Characters: Ways that the book and movie are different include...
Plot Events: Ways that the book and movie are the same include...	Plot Events: Ways that the book and movie are different include...
Resolution: Ways that the book and movie are the same include...	Resolution: Ways that the book and movie are different include...

Student Name_____ Book Title_____

Thinking Critically about the Movie Adaptation: Effects and Preferences

Element that was changed or kept the same	Effect of this decision on the telling of the story	Preference: Did this decision increase your understanding and enjoyment of the story?
Most important		
Important		
Somewhat important		
Not very important		

Student Name_____ Book Title_____

Movie Adaptation DVD Cover and Notes Project

After carefully considering the changes made to the book when it was adapted to its film version, choose one of these two projects to communicate your response to the movie:

Option One: By the book

When a book is made into a movie, publishers often re-publish the book and replace its old cover art with that of the film. In other words, they hope the movie's success will help sell the book.

In this project, take the opposite approach, and use the book to sell the movie. Create a DVD cover that uses text and images to stress the connections between the book and movie. Select quotes from the book and images from the movie that stress their common qualities and that will interest viewers in seeing the film.

In your liner notes, you will have the chance to provide a brief review of the film (around 50 lines). Explain your overall impression of the movie as well as the reasons why you included the text and art you chose for the cover.

Option Two: Reader's cut

After a film or DVD is released, companies sometimes also release a "Director's Cut," a version of the movie that is closer to the director's vision of the film than was actually released in theaters.

In this project, you'll take on the assignment of producing a cover for a "Reader's Cut," in which you will use text and images to show how you would improve the regular release. Select quotes from the book and images from the film that stress how they were different and will interest viewers in seeing this new version of the film.

In your liner notes, you will have the chance to provide a brief review of the film (around 50 lines). Explain your overall impression of the movie as well as the reasons why you included the text and art you chose for the cover.

Movie Adaptation DVD Cover and Booklet Rubric

	Exemplary 4	Good 3	Fair 2	Developing 1
The project as a whole offers a clear view of the student's response to the book and film adaptation.				
The project as a whole indicates the student's clear understanding of the similarities and/or differences between the book and film.				
The text and images on the DVD cover are well chosen and clearly illustrate the similarities and differences between the book and film.				
The text and images offer a visually pleasing combination that enhances the student's response to the book and film.				
The insert/review offers a convincing, well-written rationale for the choices in the cover.				
All text is carefully edited and suitable for informal publication.				