



http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/taxi_driver.html

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THE LISTENING / READING SCRIPT

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/taxi_driver.html

Taxi Driver is a 1976 American psychological thriller film directed by Martin Scorsese and written by Paul Schrader. The film is set in New York City, soon after the Vietnam War. The film stars Robert De Niro and features Jodie Foster and Harvey Keitel. It was nominated for four Academy Awards, including Best Picture, and won the Palme d'Or at the 1976 Cannes Film Festival. The American Film Institute ranked *Taxi Driver* as the 52nd greatest American film on their AFI's 100 Years...100 Movies list. In 1994, it was preserved in the National Film Registry. It was also a great financial success. Filmed on a budget of \$1.3 million, *Taxi Driver* earned over \$28 million in the United States alone.

The film was controversial at the time. Some critics expressed concern over 13-year-old Jodie Foster's presence during the shoot-out at the end. However, rather than being upset or traumatized, Foster said, she was fascinated and entertained by the behind-the-scenes preparation that went into the scene. She had psychological testing to ensure that she would not be emotionally scarred by her role. Movie critic Roger Ebert instantly praised the movie as one of the greatest films he'd ever seen, claiming: "Taxi Driver" is a hell, from the opening shot of a cab emerging from...clouds of steam to the climactic killing scene." The film was chosen by "Time" magazine as one of the 100 best films of all time.

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taxi_Driver





TRAILER AND POSTER

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/taxi_driver.html

POSTER

1. SIX WORDS: Look at the poster and write down six words (more if you like) that you think of as you look at it. Share the words with your partner(s). Why did you choose them?

You can find posters for this movie at www.wikipedia.com or www.imbd.com - just type the name of the movie in the search field.

2. STORY: Talk about what you think the story of the movie is – the start, beginning, end, etc. Change partners and share stories.

3. CREDITS: Look at the credits on the poster (the actors, director, producer...) and talk about them with your partner(s).

4. MUST-SEE: Talk with your partner(s) about whether the poster and movie title are good and make you want to see the movie.

5. STARRING YOU: Imagine you are one of the stars of the movie. Talk about your role with your movie star partner(s).

TRAILER

1. RETELL: Watch the trailer and retell what you saw to your partner(s).

You can watch a trailer at <http://www.youtube.com>

2. CHUNKS: Watch 10-to-15 second chunks of the trailer and retell what you saw to your partner(s).

3. QUIZ: Watch the trailer and write down some quiz questions for your partner(s). Watch a second time to find the answers to the questions.

4. VOCABULARY: Make a note of words in the trailer that you see or hear. Talk about them with your partner(s).

5. GOOD / BAD: Watch the trailer and write down why you think the film might be good or bad. Share your ideas with your partner(s).





MATCHING

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/taxi_driver.html

SYNONYM MATCH

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. set | a. grossed |
| 2. nominated | b. ordered |
| 3. ranked | c. make certain |
| 4. preserved | d. located |
| 5. earned | e. hot |
| 6. controversial | f. distressed |
| 7. concern | g. recommended |
| 8. upset | h. ending |
| 9. ensure | i. conserved |
| 10. climactic | j. worry |

PHRASE MATCH

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. psychological | a. budget of \$1.3 million |
| 2. The film is set | b. killing scene |
| 3. It was also a great | c. over \$28 million |
| 4. Filmed on a | d. scarred |
| 5. earned | e. in New York City |
| 6. The film was controversial | f. out at the end |
| 7. during the shoot- | g. thriller |
| 8. being upset | h. at the time |
| 9. emotionally | i. financial success |
| 10. the climactic | j. or traumatized |





LISTENING / READING GAP FILL

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/taxi_driver.html

Taxi Driver is a 1976 American (1) _____ directed by Martin Scorsese and written by Paul Schrader. The film is set in New York City, soon after the Vietnam War. The film stars Robert De Niro and features Jodie Foster and Harvey Keitel. (2) _____ Academy Awards, including Best Picture, and won the Palme d'Or at the 1976 Cannes Film Festival. The (3) _____ *Taxi Driver* as the 52nd greatest American film on their (4) _____. In 1994, it was (5) _____. It was also a great financial success. Filmed (6) _____, *Taxi Driver* earned over \$28 million in the United States alone.

The film was (7) _____. Some critics expressed concern over 13-year-old Jodie Foster's presence during the shoot-out at the end. However, rather than (8) _____, Foster said, she was fascinated and entertained (9) _____ preparation that went into the scene. She had psychological testing to ensure that she would not be (10) _____ role. Movie critic Roger Ebert (11) _____ one of the greatest films he'd ever seen, claiming: "*Taxi Driver*" is a hell, from the opening shot of a cab (12) _____ to the climactic killing scene." The film was chosen by "Time" magazine as one of the 100 best films of all time.





CORRECT THE SPELLING

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/taxi_driver.html

Paragraph 1

1. galccpolysohi thriller
2. ... uerseaft Jodie Foster
3. admtoeinn for four Academy Awards
4. eesdrpvre in the National Film Registry
5. It was also a great anfaiinlc success
6. Filmed on a dubteg of \$1.3 million

Paragraph 2

7. The film was iatnvecolrosr at the time
8. Some critics psdesxeer concern
9. being upset or mueiatarztd
10. behind-the-scenes renptiopraa
11. yoaelonmitl scarred by her role
12. a cab imgngree from clouds of steam





PUNCTUATE & PUT CAPITALS IN THE TEXT

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/taxi_driver.html

taxi driver is a 1976 american psychological thriller film directed by martin scorsese and written by paul schrader the film is set in new york city soon after the vietnam war the film stars robert de niro and features jodie foster and harvey keitel it was nominated for four academy awards including best picture and won the palme d'or at the 1976 cannes film festival the american film institute ranked taxi driver as the 52nd greatest american film on their afi's 100 years...100 movies list in 1994 it was preserved in the national film registry it was also a great financial success filmed on a budget of \$13 million *taxi driver* earned over \$28 million in the united states alone

the film was controversial at the time some critics expressed concern over 13-year-old jodie foster's presence during the shoot-out at the end however rather than being upset or traumatized foster said she was fascinated and entertained by the behind-the-scenes preparation that went into the scene she had psychological testing to ensure that she would not be emotionally scarred by her role movie critic roger ebert instantly praised the movie as one of the greatest films he'd ever seen claiming "taxi driver" is a hell from the opening shot of a cab emerging from...clouds of steam to the climactic killing scene" the film was chosen by "time" magazine as one of the 100 best films of all time





INSERT THE VOWELS (a,e,i,o,u)

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/taxi_driver.html

T_x_ Dr_v_r _s _ 1976 _m_r_c_n psych_l_g_c_l thr_ll_r
 f_lm d_r_ct_d by M_rt_n Sc_rs_s _ _nd wr_tt_n by P__l
 Schr_d_r. Th_ f_lm _s_s_t _n N_w Y_rk C_ty, s__n _ft_r
 th_ V__tn_m W_r. Th_ f_lm st_rs R_b_rt D_ N_r_ _nd
 f__t_r_s J_d__ F_st_r _nd H_rv_y K__t_l. _t w_s
 n_m_n_t_d f_r f__r _c_d my _w_rds, _ncl_d_ng B_st
 P_ct_r_, _nd w_n th_ P_lm_ d'r _t th_ 1976 C_nn_s
 F_lm F_st_v_l. Th_ _m_r_c_n F_lm _nst_t_t_ r_nk_d
 T_x_ Dr_v_r _s th_ 52nd gr__t_st _m_r_c_n f_lm _n
 th__r _F_'s 100 Y__rs...100 M_v__s l_st. _n 1994, _t
 w_s pr_s_rv_d _n th_ N_t__n_l F_lm R_g_stry. _t w_s
 ls _ gr__t f_n_nc__l s_cc_ss. F_lm_d _n _b_dg_t _f
 \$1.3 m_ll__n, T_x_ Dr_v_r __rn_d _v_r \$28 m_ll__n _n
 th_ _n_t_d St_t_s _l_n_.

Th_ f_lm w_s c_ntr_v_rs__l _t th_ t_m_. S_m_ cr_t_cs
 _xpr_ss_d c_nc_rn _v_r 13-y__r-ld J_d__ F_st_r's
 pr_s_nc_ d_r_ng th_ sh__t-__t _t th_ _nd. H_w_v_r,
 r_th_r th_n b__ng _ps_t _r tr__m_t_z_d, F_st_r s__d,
 sh_ w_s f_sc_n_t_d _nd _nt_rt__n_d by th_ b_h_nd-
 th_-sc_n_s pr_p_r_t__n th_t w_nt _nt_ th_ sc_n_. Sh_
 h_d psych_l_g_c_l t_st_ng t__ns_r_ th_t sh_ w__ld
 n_t b_ _m_t__n_lly sc_rr_d by h_r_r_l_. M_v__ cr_t_c
 R_g_r _b_rt _nst_ntly pr__s_d th_ m_v__ _s _n_ _f th_
 gr__t_st f_lms h_'d _v_r s__n, cl__m_ng: "T_x_
 Dr_v_r" _s _ h_ll, fr_m th_ _p_n_ng sh_t _f _c_b
 _m_rg_ng fr_m...cl__ds _f st__m_t_ th_ cl_m_ct_c
 k_ll_ng sc_n_." Th_ f_lm w_s ch_s_n by "T_m_"
 m_g_z_n_ _s _n_ _f th_ 100 b_st f_lms _f _ll t_m_.





MARK THE SPACES

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/taxi_driver.html

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____





TAXI DRIVER SURVEY

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/taxi_driver.html

Write five GOOD questions about Taxi Driver in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.



HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET INFO: Search the Internet and find more information about "Taxi Driver". Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about "Taxi Driver". What are (did) critics and moviegoers saying (say) about it? How good were the actors' performances? What was good and bad about the movie? Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. "TAXI DRIVER" POSTER: Make a poster about "Taxi Driver". Make sure you put tag lines, audience and critics' reviews, why people should see it, etc. Show it to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your posters.

5. MY PREQUEL / SEQUEL: Make your own prequel or sequel for "Taxi Driver". Make sure there is a good mix of things to do. Find some good online activities. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback.

6. CHARACTER STORY: Choose one of the characters from the movie. Imagine you are that character. Write your story about what you did in the movie. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback.

7. ONLINE SHARING: Use your blog, wiki, Facebook page, Twitter stream, or any other social media tool to get opinions on "Taxi Driver". Share your findings with the class.





ANSWERS

SYNONYM MATCH

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. set | a. located |
| 2. nominated | b. recommended |
| 3. ranked | c. ordered |
| 4. preserved | d. conserved |
| 5. earned | e. grossed |
| 6. controversial | f. hot |
| 7. concern | g. worry |
| 8. upset | h. distressed |
| 9. ensure | i. make certain |
| 10. climactic | j. ending |

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Please check for yourself by looking at the movie review on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)

CREATIVE COMMONS

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