



English as a Second Language Podcast



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## ESL Podcast 17 - Going to the Movies (Fast)

Tags: Entertainment

I love watching movies. I like a lot of different genres. No matter what my mood is, I can always find something that **fits the bill**. When I'm feeling down, I sometimes like a good comedy. My favorite are romantic comedies. The **plot** is pretty simple. A boy meets a girl and there are **road blocks** to them getting together. The **lead actors** are usually likable people, the **supporting cast** give **comic relief** and **villains** are people we **love to hate**. In the end, though, there is usually a **happy ending**. Romantic comedies, or comedies in general, can be **predictable** but they're also pretty entertaining. I **don't go out of my way** to see **slapstick** or physical comedies that much. But, once in a while, I catch a good one on TV.

I like dramas, mysteries, and action and adventure stories, not to mention documentaries. My favorite are movies that have surprise endings that **throw you for a loop**. Just when you thought you had the whole thing **figured out**, there's a **plot twist**. Good **screenwriters** or **directors** can **pull it off**.

One type of movie I don't like much are horror movies. Scary movies just don't **do it for me**. But, there is one exception. I like movies by the director Alfred Hitchcock. Hitchcock was born in England but made most of his films in the U.S. Before he died in 1980, he made a lot of movies that are now considered **classics**. Most of them are **nail-biters**; some are mysteries and some are horror stories.

The scariest movie I think he made and that I've ever seen was a movie called *Psycho*. The movie is set in a seedy motel called Bates Motel. The **main character** owns the motel and lives there with his mother. Strange things happened at this motel. People check in, but sometimes, they don't check out. One day, a very pretty woman checks in to the motel. We know something bad is going happen to her. **Sure enough**, we see her get murdered. At the very end, we find out who the murderer is. It's one of those surprise endings. Just when you thought you have it figured out, it turns out to be a **shocker**. I won't **spoil the ending** for you if you haven't seen it. I recommend it though and give it a **big thumbs up**. But, be warned. It's not for the **faint-hearted**.

Script by Dr. Lucy Tse