ABOUT THESE RESOURCES

The Thinking Film resource series features a range of clips from feature films. The clips are reproduced by Film Education in partnership with FDA (Film Distributors’ Association) for use in UK educational establishments. Clips appear courtesy of the rights holders who are credited in each instance on the relevant DVD. Film Education has endeavoured to ensure all rights holders are accurately credited.

Schools do not require a special license to use the clips on the DVD in a curriculum context. The CD-ROM resources come with a full site license, meaning that content on the disc can be networked and used across a number of computers at the same time. Please do not make physical copies of the resources as this will breach copyright.

GENERAL INFORMATION ON COPYRIGHT FOR SCHOOLS

Schools should be aware of issues relating to intellectual property and ensure that they employ best practice, both setting a good example for their students and avoiding any complications for the institution.

Copyright laws are intended to protect the interests of rights holders. So for example, whilst purchasing a physical or digital copy of a film gives the purchaser the right to use their copy in particular circumstances, they don’t own the copyright for the film: that is, they do not have the right to copy or reproduce it, and may only be able to screen it in certain circumstances. In the case of a feature film, a number of elements will be protected by copyright, for example, the script and original music score, or the artwork on the disc sleeve or jacket.

There are a number of exceptions to copyright laws pertaining to film, and there are particular exceptions for the use of film within educational establishments. According to these exceptions, teachers may show films (including whole films, and clips such as those used in the Thinking Film series) in the classroom for the purposes of teaching and learning. Teachers should be aware that after school, lunchtime or breaktime showings of
films for entertainment are not covered in the same way by this exception. You can find further details on this exception on the UKIPO’s website: http://www.ipo.gov.uk/types/copy/c-other/c-exception/c-exception-teaching.htm

It’s a good idea to contact individual exam boards for advice on the use of copyright film and music in coursework submissions, for example, especially as these may change over time.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND REFERENCES

UKIPO
The website for the UK Intellectual Property Office hosts a range of helpful information on copyright:
  • http://www.ipo.gov.uk/

Film Education has produced a number of teaching resources which touch on issues of intellectual property and copyright:

SWITCHED ON: LEARNING IN ICT
Suitable for KS3, 4 and 5, this online resource covers a wide range of issues relating to intellectual property as it explores our relationship with ICT.
  • http://www.filmeducation.org/switchedon/

MATHS+MOVIES
Suitable for learners at upper primary level, Film Education’s Maths+Movies resource gives pupils a real-world context for maths. The activities also aim to encourage children to think about the value of seeing a film at the cinema. Children will have access to some ‘behind the scenes’ information from a film industry perspective, and in learning about the business of film distribution, they will gain an understanding of the fairness of paying for a film that is chosen and viewed at the cinema, rather than taking it for free.
  • http://www.filmeducation.org/mathsandmovies/

BE CREATIVE
This competition for secondary schools is accompanied by a range of resources that explore aspects of copyright in relation to the film and television industries.
  • http://www.filmeducation.org/becreative/resources.html