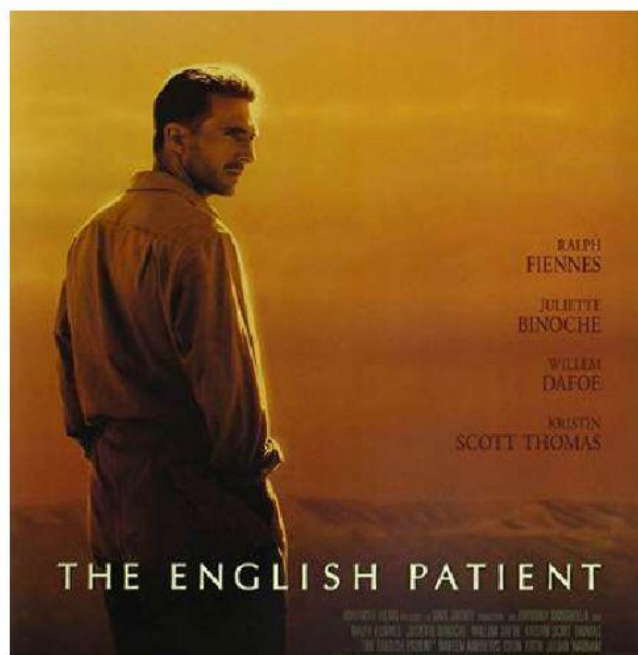


PRACTICE

1- Listen to a radio interview about film adaptations of books. Choose the correct answer.



1. The interview is about two _____ film adaptations.
 - ☐ bad
 - ☐ good
 - ☐ new
2. The first film is _____ adaptation of *Great Expectations*.
 - ☐ a recent
 - ☐ an early
 - ☐ a terrible
3. The second film is _____ adaptation of *The English Patient*.
 - ☐ a really bad
 - ☐ an earlier
 - ☐ a more recent

2. Listen again and mark T (true) or F (false). If necessary, read the script.

1. The adaptation of *Great Expectations* is from 1956. _____
2. This adaptation is a black-and-white film. _____
3. The main character in *Great Expectations* is a girl. _____
4. The film is more frightening than the book. _____
5. The author of *The English Patient* isn't British. _____
6. The main character of *The English Patient* had a car crash. _____
7. The critic says the best thing about the film is the love story. _____
8. Both the book and the film won important prizes. _____

P = Presenter, **C** = Christopher

P Hello and welcome to Focus on Film. In the studio with us today is film critic Christopher Phillips. We've asked him to choose his two favourite film adaptations of books. Christopher, where are you going to start?

C Well, it's been a difficult choice but I'm going to start with a very early film, the 1946 adaptation of *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens.

P 1946? That is early.

C Yes, and as you can imagine, the film is in black and white. It tells the story of a poor young boy called Pip who, with the help of a mysterious person, becomes a gentleman. The story doesn't change much in the film, but the photography makes the atmosphere darker and more frightening. It's an excellent adaptation.

P *Great Expectations*. Right. I haven't seen the film, but I've read the book, of course. What's your other film, Christopher?

C Well, my other choice is a bit more recent. It's *The English Patient*.

P Yes, I've seen that one a few times. But I don't know anything about the book. Tell us more.

C Well, the author is a Sri Lankan-Canadian writer called Michael Ondaatje and his novel won an important prize – the Booker Prize. The film came out in 1996 and it's a wonderful adaptation of the book. It tells the story of a man in a military hospital who has been in a plane crash. We also learn something about the life and loves of his nurse. Again there are few changes to the story, but the best thing about the film is the choice of actors, who are perfect for their parts. The film won a total of nine Oscars, which shows just how good it is.

P Christopher Phillips, thank you for joining us.

C Thank you for having me. I've enjoyed it.