READING COMPREHENSION-WORKBOOK PAG 104

2 Read the blog. Which film does the writer consider to be the best alien film?

Top four films – Aliens

After the success of last week's post on space films, I thought I'd keep with the night sky this week for inspiration. So here they are, hand-picked for you, four of the very best alien films.

1 *E.T.* (1982)

A young and unknown Drew Barrymore and friends find a little alien hiding in the shed and spend the rest of the film trying to get him home, in Steven Spielberg's highly enjoyable (if a little sentimental) family film. With his huge eyes and glowing finger, E.T.'s cuteness won him millions of fans and showed us that not all aliens are trying to take over the world. An absolute classic that everyone should have seen by the age of 15. And who can ever forget the bike flying across the moon with E.T. in the basket – one of the most famous images in film history.

2 *War of the Worlds* (2005)

In 1898 H.G. Wells wrote one of the greatest science fiction novels of all time: *War of the Worlds*. In 1938 Orson Welles' radio production of it had people believing that aliens had really landed on Earth. In 1953 the first film version was released and became a huge success. Despite this, not many critics were all that excited when in 2005 it was announced that a Tom Cruise version was being released. However, they soon realised they were wrong and this modern version is one of the best sci-fi films of the last 20 years. Of course the special effects are great but it is Cruise's battle to save his family from the evil aliens that makes this film so exciting.

3 *Men in Black* (1997)

Unknown to most people, aliens are living on Earth disguised as humans. This is due to a secret government organisation which keeps an eye on the alien population. Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones are special agents for this organisation. Their job is to make sure that the aliens behave and that the secret doesn't get out but neither of these things is always so easy to control. Great dialogue and special effects make this an entertaining science fiction comedy. And the success of the first film has already resulted in two sequels, both fun but not as good as the original.

4 *District 9* (2009)

Saving the best until last, the most modern film on the list is also the least well-known, which is a shame since it's fantastic. Because of problems on their home planet, aliens arrive on Earth in need of help. The government agrees they can stay but places them in special areas. But the aliens soon get tired of being treated like second-class citizens and decide to fight back. Forget famous faces and a huge budget, this intelligent 2009 film from South Africa was as action-packed as any Hollywood blockbuster. It proves that not all films have to come from America. Of all the films on my list, this is the one most likely to make you think about the world we live in. I can't recommend it enough.

3 Read the blog again and mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).

1 Drew Barrymore wasn't famous when she starred in *E.T.* ☐
2 *E.T.* features a friendly alien. ☐
3 Critics were surprised by thve 2005 version of *War of the Worlds*. ☐
4 Tom Cruise was in the first film version of *War of the Worlds*. ☐
5 Tommy Lee Jones and Will Smith play aliens in *Men in Black*. ☐
6 *Men in Black II* is the most enjoyable film in the series. ☐
7 The aliens in *District 9* originally came to Earth peacefully. ☐
8 *District 9* was filmed in Hollywood. ☐

4 Write a paragraph about your favourite film of all time.

LIVEWORKSHEETS