Netflix or cinema?



- How often do you go to the cinema?
- How often do you watch films on Netflix or other TV app?
- Do you prefer to go to the cinema or stay at home and watch a film lying on your sofa? :)

Focus on vocabulary

Part A: Match each word or phrase to its correct definition.

1. hang out (phr. verb)	a. an illness that exists in most people or across most of an area
2. popcorn (n)	b. a snack made from yellow seeds that is very popular at the cinema
3. crisis (n)	c. a very dangerous or very difficult situation
4. pandemic (n)	d. by a great amount
5. by far (phr.)	e. say no to something
6. popularity (n)	f. spend time with friends, relaxing
7. demand (n)	g. the need for something to be provided or supplied by others
8. turn down (phr. verb)	h. the quality of being liked or supported by many people

Part B: Write the correct word or phrase from Part A in each sentence.

1. COVID-19 was a major _____ for the cinema industry with many having to close.
2. There was a huge _____ for the new PlayStation when it first became available.
3. I think Manchester United are the best football team in the world _____.
4. I always choose to have salt with my _____ instead of sugar when I go to the cinema.
5. I'd never _____ a free holiday to Australia.
6. The President's _____ is at an all-time low following his decision to increase taxes.
7. How cool would it be to _____ with a celebrity for the weekend?
8. COVID-19 isn't the first _____ the world has seen and, unfortunately, won't be the last.

SCANNING

Look through the article below and tick which ways of watching films are mentioned in the article 'Netflix or the cinema'

- ☐ cinema
- ☐ watches
- ☐ YouTube
- ☐ computers
- ☐ television
- ☐ smartphones
- ☐ tablets
- ☐ laptops



LIVEWORKSHEETS

Netflix or the cinema?

Do you enjoy going to the cinema? Yes, I hear you say. I love it!

A. **Times to enjoy**

Going to the movies is special for many people in many cultures. Often, the experience of **hanging out** with friends, choosing what to watch, getting a huge box of **popcorn** and watching a film with lots of other people makes this a really fun event. Sharing moments of excitement as you watch action movies, getting frightened together watching a horror movie or laughing with friends at a comedy really connects people and makes great memories.

B. **Hard times**

But the last few years have been difficult for the cinema. They were hit harder than many businesses when hundreds of thousands across the world had to close because of the health **crisis**. This was on top of the challenges that cinemas were already facing, with young people preferring to watch at home on streaming services such as Netflix or watch YouTube videos on their smartphones.

C. **New watching trends**

Streaming services benefited from people being at home and they got millions more viewers during the **pandemic**, but this was already happening. In the last five years, the amount of traditional television that teens watch has halved, and the percentage of 12– 18-year-olds that watch videos online daily has more than doubled. The big TV in the living room is being used less and less and the idea of a shared experience around a show or film is slowly becoming a thing of the past – in the home at least.

D. **The technology**

Ask a teenager today how they watch films or their favourite shows and not many will say television, and if they do, they don't mean television in the traditional sense. Young people watch YouTube videos and stream films and TV series at a time that is convenient to them, on screens that are getting smaller, and it doesn't matter where. They might use a laptop in a bedroom, a tablet on the sofa or a mobile phone on the bus or at school.

E. **The research**

All of this is good news for streaming services, but is it bad news for the cinema? Are teenagers today so in love with their devices that they won't go to their local multiplex? The answer may surprise you because it's a big loud "no!". In a recent survey, teenagers in the UK were asked to name the leisure activity they had missed the most while at home during the health emergency. The cinema (62%) was **by far** the most popular answer with going to cafes and restaurants (18%), concerts (14%) and theme parks (4%) far behind.

F. **The future**

There are many reasons for the **popularity** of the cinema with teenagers despite the **demand** for streaming services. Some of the reasons given in the survey included watching a film with friends, getting something to eat and drink before or after the film and talking about new films together. Teenagers are watching more videos on smaller screens, and this is great, but if they get an invitation to the cinema, it's not one they are usually going to **turn down!**

Sources: bbfc.co.uk; bbc.com; geckotheatre.co.nz; edweek.org; nytimes.com

Glossary

stream: play video or sound directly from the internet
streaming service: an online entertainment business that provides video and/or audio content
Netflix: an example of a streaming service that provides films and TV series
multiplex: a cinema with lots of different rooms

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TRUE OR FALSE?

Read the text again and decide whether the sentences are true (T) or False (F)

1. Many people enjoy the cinema. _____
2. Fewer young people were going to the cinema before the pandemic. _____
3. The popularity of streaming services began to grow during the health crisis. _____
4. Families are watching together more at home. _____
5. More people are going to the cinema now they are open again. _____
6. There are many reasons why the cinema's popularity will continue. _____

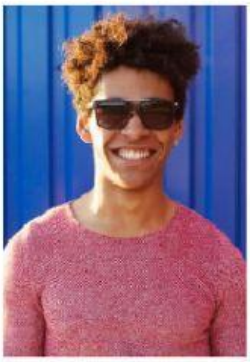
LISTENING

You are about to listen to four teenagers talking about streaming and cinema.

Part 1: Listen and write down the type of film each likes best



Viktor



Jamal



Gemma



Ella

Part 2: Listen again and complete the table with what each teenager likes about the cinema and what they like about streaming.

Name	What kind of film do you like best?	Why do they like the cinema?	Why do they like streaming?
Viktor	(1)	(2)	(3)
Jamal	(1)	(2)	(3)
Gemma	(1)	(2)	(3)
Ella	(1)	(2)	(3)

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Vocabulary

Look at these sentences. What do you think each word/phrase means?

1. I'm nearly always **up for it**. I'd never **turn it down**.
   a. I hardly ever refuse an invitation to the cinema because I like it so much.
   b. I'm always positive about the films I see, and I never say bad things about them.
2. I probably watch three or four hours a day – usually at home in my room. I'm a bit **addicted to** it, to be honest.
   a. I watch a lot and I probably would find it difficult to stop even if I wanted to.
   b. I watch a lot, but I get a bit bored of watching so much and would prefer to do something else.
3. If my dad is watching football, I don't have to – which is a **relief**!
   a. I wish I could watch football more often with my dad.
   b. I'm happy that I can watch something else when my dad is watching football.
4. We have like a family **subscription** or something and I can watch one thing – I love watching musicals, my brother can watch cartoons and my mum can watch a romance or something.
   a. We paid Netflix £100 so we can watch whatever we want, whenever we want, forever.
   b. We pay about £10 a month which means we can watch lots of things at the same time.
5. Can you imagine meeting up with your friends and then going into different rooms at the multiplex? That'd be so **weird**!
   a. It would be really strange to meet up with friends at the cinema and then watch different films.
   b. It would be really cool to meet up with friends at the cinema and then watch different films.

LIVEWORKSHEETS