

# **LEISURE AND ENTERTAINMENT IN THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**

**LESSON 1: AT THE MOVIES**

# **L.I. I CAN UNDERSTAND HOW AND WHY CINEMA CHANGED OVER THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY.**

## Success criteria

- Explain how the first films in the 1910s and 1920s were different from films today.
- Explain what 'talkies' are.
- Explain why cinema became less popular by the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- Look at film posters from the past.

There are lots of different way how people entertain themselves, or spend their leisure (free) time.

With your free time, you might...

Play computer games

Bake a cake

Read

Listen to music

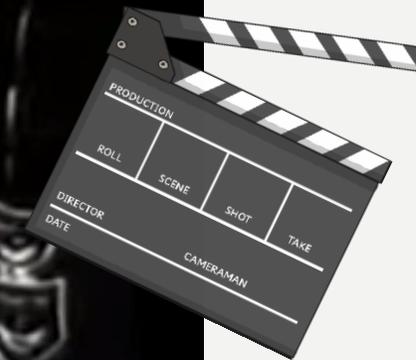
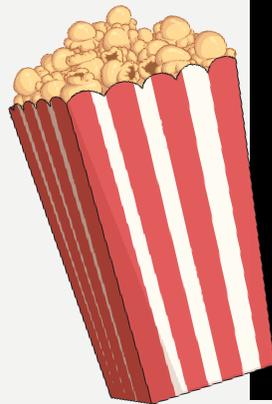
**In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, one of the most popular entertainments was...**

# ...THE CINEMA!

Welcome to Twinkl Theatres in 1914.

Sit back, relax and enjoy the film 'Between Showers' starring Charlie Chaplin.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hrg4aU7jCd8>





At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, films were silent. Actors like Charlie Chaplin became big stars.

Often, a pianist (a person on a piano) would sit in the movie theatre and play the music that he thought was fitting for the story. So the music was live!

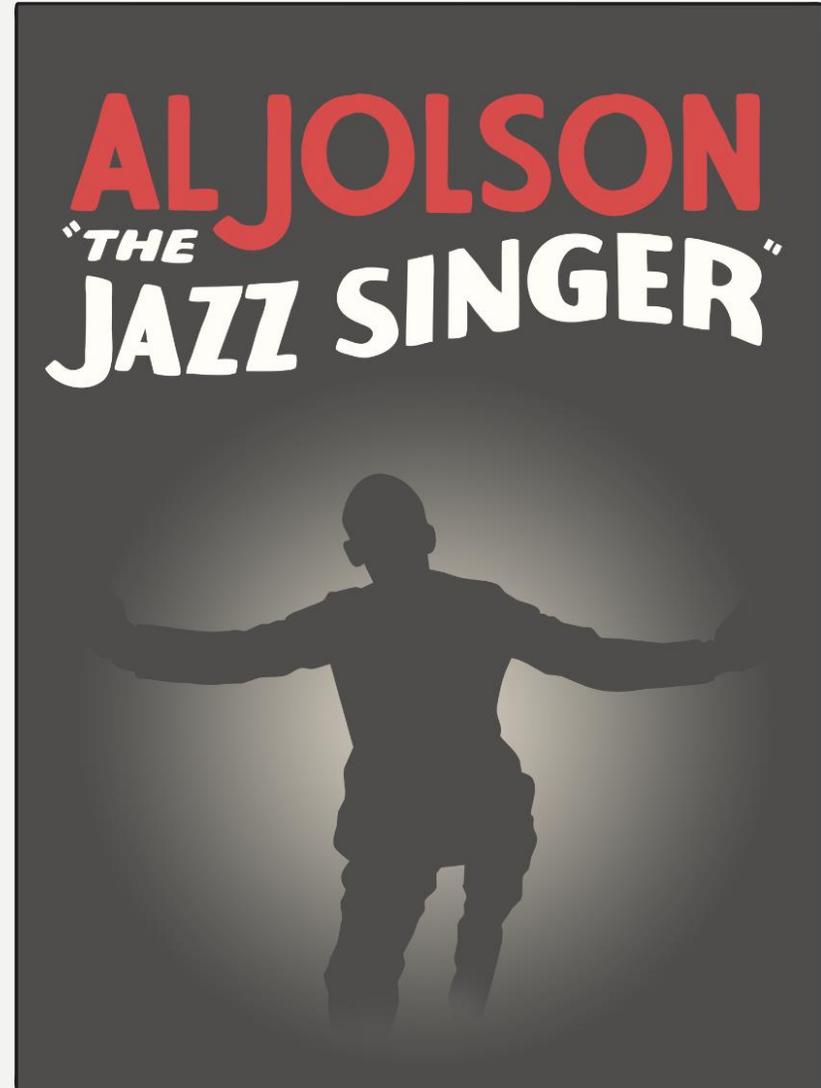
# THE THREAT OF TELEVISION

The first 'talkie' was made in 1927. It was called The Jazz Singer.

A 'talkie' was the name for a film with sound included. It was the first time audiences could hear actors speak!

Most films were still black and white, but this changed in the 1930s when colour films began to be made.

Cinema was changing quickly and in lots of exciting ways!

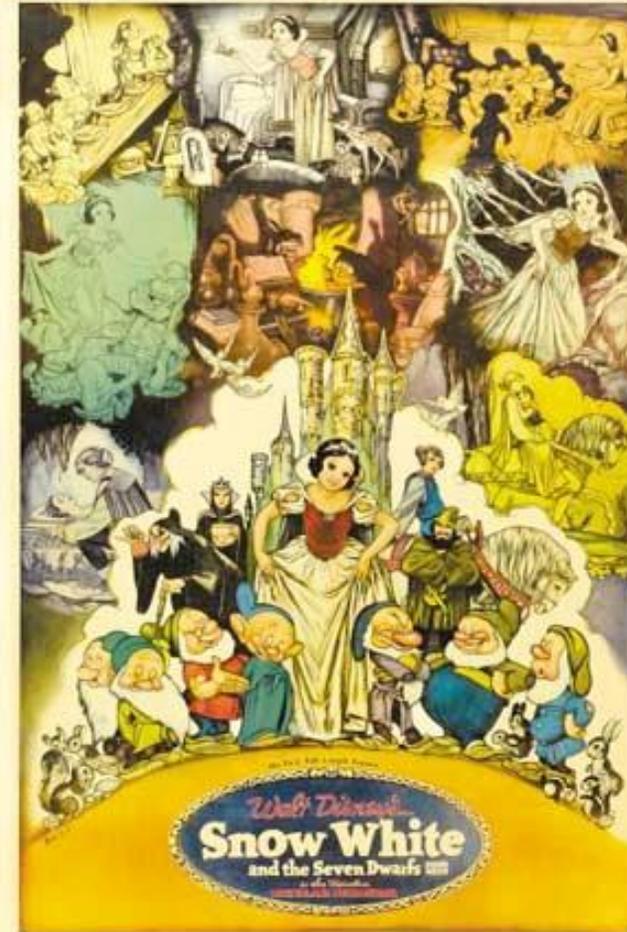


# THE THREAT OF TELEVISION

By the middle of the 1930s, most people in Britain were going to the cinema once or twice a week.

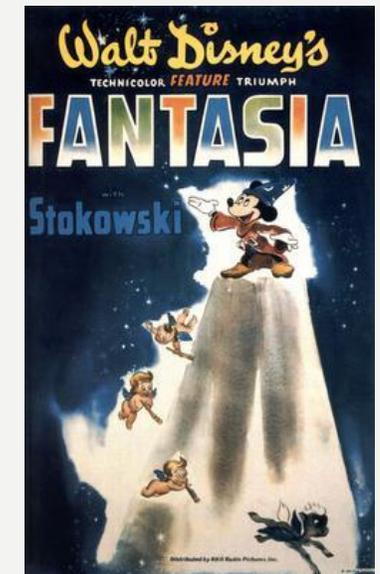
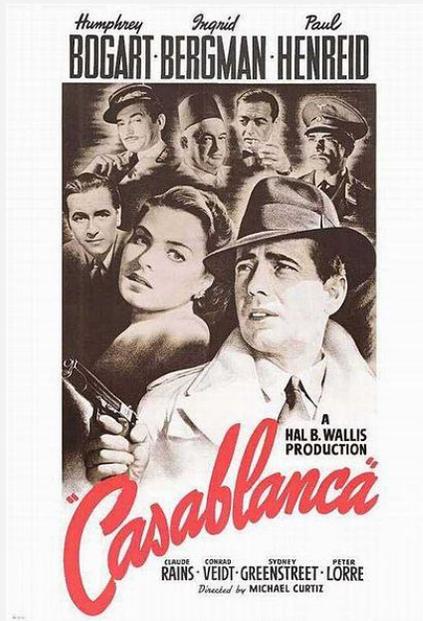
However, as television became more popular in the 1950s, cinema audiences began to decline (get smaller).

By the 1960s, watching television was the nation's favourite leisure time choice.



# USING FILM POSTERS

To encourage people to start visiting cinemas again, film posters were used to advertise. Have a look at some below. What is similar or different to what we have today?



# USING FILM POSTERS

Look at the activity sheet below complete the information.  
How different are old film posters from the ones we see today?

How is the writing used in this poster?

Can you tell what the film is about?

Would you enjoy going to see this film? Why?

What questions could you ask about this film?



How are the pictures used in this poster?

What changes would you make to this poster to interest people today?

Compare this to a modern film poster.  
How is it different or similar?

# CREATING FILM POSTERS

## Activity

Now you know about the role of cinema in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, you will need to create your own film poster for one these films →

You need to:

1. Read the information about each film
2. Choose one of the films.
3. Design a poster that advertises the film.



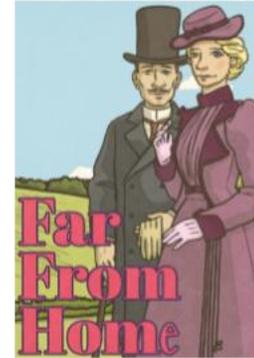
### Ice Dive

The film is set in an icy place called the Arctic.

The action hero plays an Ice Warrior in this exciting Arctic escape movie.

The unlucky main character, Ned Walker, meets his female partner, Lotte, who needs to cross the icy land to get home.

It is a fast-paced movie, with special effects and great acting.

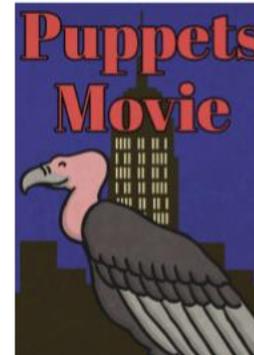


### Far From Home

This film is based on a book and is set in the past.

Jennifer Carrington is a young woman keen to do well. She runs a business and finds that local men become very interested in her. Firstly, a pig farmer called Reuben Rowan, then a landowner called Finnigan and a soldier called Sergeant Leon.

Can she find happiness with any of them?



### The Puppets Movie

Our favourite friend, Clive the Crow, is replaced by an evil birdie in this hilarious movie! The Puppets gang sets off travelling. What they don't know is that they are being followed by a criminal called Alexander - the world's most dangerous bird! Worse still, Alexander looks exactly the same as Clive the Crow.

Clive quickly finds himself thrown into a prison, while Alexander takes his place. Meanwhile, Dan the Vulture is trying to find out what is going on.