

Entertainment to Education: "Developing Critical Thinking Skills Through watching movies a Pedagogical Perspective of High School Students in Kongu region"

Abstract:

In an era dominated by visual media, film has emerged as more than just a source of entertainment it holds transformative potential in the field of education. This study explores how watching and analysing films can foster critical thinking skills among high school students in Coimbatore. The rapid integration of media in daily life has made films a compelling tool in modern education. This quantitative study examines how structured film-watching and analysis can enhance critical thinking skills among high school students in the Kongu region. Moving beyond entertainment, the research explores the pedagogical potential of movies to develop students' analytical abilities, logical reasoning, and evaluative judgment. In the digital age, students are increasingly exposed to visual media, particularly films and videos. While traditionally considered a form of entertainment, films have proven potential as educational tools. A quasi-experimental design was employed with two student groups: a control group receiving conventional classroom instruction and an experimental group exposed to selected films followed by guided discussions and analysis tasks. A standardized critical thinking test was administered to both groups before and after a four-week intervention. Data were analysed using statistical tools to measure differences in performance.

Findings indicate a statistically significant improvement in the critical thinking abilities of students who participated in film-based learning activities. Key gains were observed in interpretation, inference, and argument evaluation.

This research investigates how the use of visual media especially educational films can influence academic performance among high school students in the Coimbatore region. The study aims to bridge the gap between entertainment and education by exploring the cognitive and performance-based benefits of using films in classroom instruction.

keywords: Film Studies, Film-Based Pedagogy, High School Students, Coimbatore