

# MOVIE TRAILER LESSON

– Submitted by, Sean Sweeney

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Our 4th grade studies the concept of genres so I was thinking of the way this corresponded with movie trailers and abbreviated episodes. Movie trailers seem to have that structure, giving information about character, setting, kickoff, internal responses and plans (no direct consequence, because that would give the ending away), and also provide a good context for working on inferences as they often "hint" about aspects of the film. I rounded up nine trailers in different genres and am working with small groups to analyze them using the abbreviated episode map (found in the Story Grammar Marker® Manual). The kids then use a list map to pick out the elements of the film that make it fit in a genre (e.g. science fiction- space travel, aliens, astronauts, rocket ship etc) In this particular class I am having the small groups introduce each clip with an oral presentation (structured by MindWing's abbreviated episode and list maps from the Story Grammar Marker® and ThemeMaker™ manuals) and then show the trailer as part of a "Genre Film Fest."

The clips I picked out, in case you are interested or they might help others, are:

Realistic Fiction

[http://www.apple.com/trailers/lions\\_gate/akeelahandthebee/](http://www.apple.com/trailers/lions_gate/akeelahandthebee/)

[http://www.apple.com/trailers/fox/flicka/flicka\\_trail\\_md.html](http://www.apple.com/trailers/fox/flicka/flicka_trail_md.html)

Biography

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YW1b3G2MN3Q>

Science Fiction

[http://www.apple.com/trailers/sony\\_pictures/planet51/](http://www.apple.com/trailers/sony_pictures/planet51/)

Mystery

<http://www.apple.com/trailers/wb/nancydrew/>

Fantasy

<http://www.apple.com/trailers/disney/racetowitchmountain/>

Informational

<http://www.apple.com/trailers/disney/rovingmars/>

Nonfiction

<http://www.apple.com/trailers/independent/littleredtruck/>

Comedy

[http://www.apple.com/trailers/sony\\_pictures/thepinkpanther2/](http://www.apple.com/trailers/sony_pictures/thepinkpanther2/)

Adventure

<http://www.apple.com/trailers/disney/up/>



**See following pages for samples of student work!**

# The Student's Information List Map

Date \_\_\_\_\_



"List" things related to a topic.

Elements of  
biography

Audience \_\_\_\_\_



a real person

Plan

there were people who were interviewed

true event

**Key Words:**  
for example, also  
list, and, besides,  
furthermore,  
in addition to,  
another, also,  
for instance,  
more, some

Topic Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

# SIGM® Abbreviated Episode Map

Name Jade

Name

Flicka, daughter



Country, Midwestern South

The daughter and dad found  
a wild mustang and tried to  
catch it and they did.  
excited, hopeful, happy

is there a beginning of a plan? keep it and train it,

Summary: \_\_\_\_\_

# SIGM® Abbreviated Episode Map

Name Michael Ostrovskiy

Name

Aliens and Astronaut



planet 51

Astronaut comes to the planet

everyone is scared of  
each other

is there a beginning of a plan?

**Key Words:**  
for example, also  
list, and, besides,  
furthermore,  
in addition to,  
another, also,  
for instance,  
more, some

Summary: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Student's Information List Map

Date \_\_\_\_\_



"List" things related to a topic.



elements of realistic fiction

Audience \_\_\_\_\_



there's horses



not a true story, could



Real setting



Topic Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_



# The Student's Information List Map

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



"List" things related to a topic.

★ elements of science Audience Fiction

● Aliens

● astronaut

● rocket

● wierd

**Key Words:**  
for example, also list, and, besides, furthermore, in addition to, another, also, for instance, more, some

Topic Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

# SIGM® Abbreviated Episode Map

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Map on Wife



Is there a beginning of a plant?

There was a team in each tower they had idea bags and they were going to throw the rap across

Summary: \_\_\_\_\_

# SIGM® Abbreviated Episode Map

Leanna

Name

Nancy Drew



Holly wood

She moves and trys to figure out a mystery

Exited and scored



Investigate the house and the tunnel

**Key Words:**  
for example, also list, and, besides, furthermore, in addition to, another, also, for instance, more, some

Summary: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Student's Information List Map

Leanna

Date \_\_\_\_\_



"List" things related to a topic.

★ Elements of Mystery Audience

● clues

● Some thing nast to be solved

● Detectives

● prediktion

Topic Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_