

Seneca College Audio-Visual Services Recommended Resources

English as a Second Language Media

To find other videos & media in this subject area on the online catalogue, use the following terms:

English language - Business English
Feature films

English language - Self-instruction.
English language - Films for foreign speakers

Educational Videos and DVDs

Across the great divide (DVD) *Markham Campus*

F1060 .A37 2005

52 minutes

Explores Canada's great prairies as well as reaching over the Rocky Mountains to the Canadian west. Highlights the wilderness areas and the animals who live there.

American business English/ ESL: the fundamentals

PE 1128.A49 1998 V.1&2

226 minutes, 2 videocassettes

Video is designed for non-English speaking people who want to maneuver easily through the business community. Includes over 23 lessons with 70 role-playing business scenarios designed to help effective communication.

Asylum

HV640.4.C2 A75 1998

79 minutes

Asylum is the first feature documentary to take us inside the Canadian refugee process. It follows three people from their arrival in Canada to the final decision of the Refugee Board, and beyond.

Basic cozy grammar course

PE1112.7 B37 2001

154 minutes

Shot on location on the Discovery Passage side of Vancouver Island and accompanied by classical music, this video course utilizes colourful graphics to illustrate examples of English grammar.

Be prepared to speak: the step-by-step video guide to public speaking

PN4121 .B39

27 minutes

Demonstrates techniques for preparing and practicing speeches. Follows one speaker's progress through the process of speech writing, speech presentation and control of stage fright.

Black on white *King Campus*

PE1075 .B48

57 minutes

Explores the contribution of Black American English from its beginning on the west coast of Africa to its transformation into Creole and Harlem street talk of the present day.

Broken promises

JV7225 .B75 2005

21 minutes

W-FIVE looks at the plight of highly-qualified immigrants who can only find menial jobs once they arrive in Canada. At least one website has popped up warning potential immigrants to stay away.

Canada *Markham Campus*

FC75 .C31224 1992

58 minutes

Anne Martin invites you on an intriguing journey to every province and territory across Canada. Includes a travel guide segment.

Canada: a diverse culture

FC104 .C224 2002

25 minutes

This video allows viewers to experience different Canadian cultures and investigate how they interact. A student team journeys to Quebec and British Columbia to study social, economic, and cultural issues in those provinces.

Canada, a people's history (DVD) York Campus

FC164 .C34..

50-120 minutes, 17 episodes

[Seneca streaming video \(episodes 7, 8, 9, 14\)](#)

An account of Canada's history, from 15,000BC to the present.

Canada and the U.S. understanding our differences (DVD)

E169.12 .N67 2004

30 minutes

Crossing the border from the U.S. into Canada is a pretty easy affair, says Northrop Frye, one of the world's foremost literary critics; there are no walls, no barbed-wire fences, no lookout towers. But if our borders are open to each other, our minds can sometimes be less so. There's a lot we North Americans don't know about each other, and a lot we have to learn. In this program with Bill Moyers, Frye speaks about our common and uncommon mythologies. He discusses our cultural differences and Canada's struggles to establish a separate identity beyond being America's neighbor.

Canada at war (DVD)

FC582 .C35946 2005

510 minutes, 4 DVDs

This compelling series shows World War II as Canadians encountered it, from the halting beginning when the country, struggling against depression, accepted the challenge of war, to VE-Day, when Canada emerged as an industrial power. This special 4-DVD set includes 13 half-hour films culled from more than 16 million feet of film shot by Canadian, British, American, German and Russian cameramen. With this rare cache - some captured from the enemy - the National Film Board of Canada undertook the huge task of editing this footage into an historic series. There are scenes in the skies over Britain and Europe, on the campaign fronts of France, Italy, North Africa, the Far East, and on the sub-haunted Atlantic Ocean. The series recalls Canada's part in WWII on the battlefields abroad and on the civilian front at home. Canada at War highlights crucial events from 1936 to 1946, when the Cold War began. This vital era changed the nation and the world.

Canada votes: how Canadians elect their government: Canada's federal electoral system

JL193 .C36 1995

26 minutes

Shows Canada's electoral system and how Canada votes in a federal election.

Canada's greatest battles: Vimy Ridge & the last 100 days (DVD) York Campus

D547 .C36 2006

185 minutes, 2 DVDs

Vimy Ridge (95:00)

The last 100 days (90:00).

Canada's links to the world: Canada and its trading partners (DVD) Markham Campus

HF3224 .C36 2009

18 minutes

This video explores Canada's link to other countries, focusing on our trading relationships. It also examines some of Canada's most important trading partners, in three bonus five to six minute segments on China, Mexico and the United States. There is an overview of the history of trade in Canada beginning with the Aboriginal people and early explorers.

Canadian concepts 4 (DVD)

PE1128 .C36 1998

15 minutes

Video material to accompany Canadian Concepts.

Unit 1, activity 1. The Yellow Pages

Unit 3, activity 2. Having a snack

Unit 5, activity 3. Spring excuses

Unit 7, activity 4. Hold on a moment
Unit 9, activity 5. Sweepstakes

Canadian concepts 5 (DVD)

PE1128 .C36 1998 40 minutes

Video material to accompany Canadian Concepts.

Unit 2, activity 1. The pizza police

Unit 4, activity 2. Cinnamon bear

Unit 6, activity 3. The farmer's almanac

Unit 8, activity 4. Country courtin'

Unit 9, activity 5. What's in a name?

Unit 10, activity 6. Finding money

Canadian concepts 6 (DVD)

PE1128 .C36 1998 100 minutes

Video material to accompany Canadian Concepts.

Unit 2, activity 1. Yaohan market

Unit 4, activity 2. Alternative punishment

Unit 5, activity 3. Corporate donations

Unit 8, activity 4. Your genetic profile

Unit 9, activity 5. Drug alert.

The Charter and you--the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms (DVD)

KE4381.5.Z85 C488 59 minutes

An introduction to the Charter's provisions and how they impact upon individual Canadians in their everyday affairs.

The complete communicator. Put it into writing.

HF5718 .C445 1998 20 minutes

Explains the techniques required to improve written communication skills clearly and persuasively. It offers tips on the importance of gathering the relevant factual information, planning, identifying the purpose of writing, using the active voice, avoiding business jargon and pomposity, using short sentences and paragraphs, checking and proofing.

Connect with English

PE 1128.A2 C66.. 1997 60 minutes each, 13 videocassettes

Through the story of Rebecca, an aspiring singer on a journey across America, *Connect With English* touches on life's important issues: leaving home, parenting, education, work, love, success, and loss. All of the characters use meaningful, natural language that students can put to work immediately in their own lives. Each episode features dialogue that is slightly slowed down and subtly simplified. Key lines are repeated, idioms paraphrased, and important events retold. There are constant visual clues to meaning, such as written signs, notes, and documents. Facial expressions, gestures, and body language also reveal meaning for students.

Correct grammar *King Campus*

PE1112 .C685 26 minutes

Program will show you ways to recognize and avoid typical errors in grammar.

Destination Canada

FC75 .D474 1995 50 minutes

Visit the major natural and cultural attractions of the Maritimes, Quebec, Ontario, the Prairies, Alberta, the Rockies, British Columbia and the far north. Explore the wondrous diversity of Canada's people, wildlife and landscape.

Discovering Canada Markham Campus

FC75 .D57 1992

73 minutes

Explores Canada's wondrous diversity of culture and landscape from snow-swept Arctic tundra to city scenes.

Discussion starters

LC6519 .D57 1981

25 minutes

A compilation of 3 animated films which serve to provoke discussion on a variety of themes: leadership, problem solving and responsibility. Table of Contents: Zea (5 min.) Special delivery (7 min.) The Sand castle (13 min.)

Don't get caught in the web

Z669.7 .D66 2000

18 minutes

Dramatizes the experience of a first-year college student who is trying to do a research paper using only the Internet. A savvy advisor helps him discover the wealth of resources available in the library and leads him through basic research strategy.

Easy English: asking and giving directions

PE 1128.A2 E27 1995 V.4

45 minutes

Designed to help non-native speakers learn & develop English speaking skills. Viewers learn how to ask directions, how to ask for help, how to use addresses & phone numbers, & how to use possessives & tell dates.

Easy English: meeting and greeting

PE 1128.A2E27 1995 V.2

40 minutes

Designed to help non-native speakers learn & develop English speaking skills. Viewers learn: nouns & noun plurals; prepositions in and on; simple adjectives; how to engage in formal and informal introductions.

Easy English: understanding basic conversation

PE 1128.A2 E27 1995 V.1

50 minutes

Designed to help non-native speakers learn & develop English speaking skills. Viewers will learn pronunciation and spelling of names, how to locate objects & people, how to engage in yes/no questions & how to conduct simple topical conversations

Easy English: using numbers and money

PE 1128.A2e27 1995 V.3

60 minutes

Viewers learn: parts of the day, weather, polite speech and giving directions; counting and using money; interaction with yes/no questions; more nouns when the instructor takes a trip to the food store. Designed for non-native speakers

English every day: a resource for language learning

PE 1128 E5147 1999

56 minutes

A series of vignettes specifically designed for adults who are learning English as a second or foreign language. The goal is to provide visual representation of every day activities with authentic language and non-verbal cues appropriate to every day contexts.

An English speaking world King Campus

PE1075 .E54

57 minutes

In the first of a nine-part series hosted by Robert MacNeil, this program explores how English has become the dominant means of communication in today's global village.

ESL English as a second Language (DVD)

PE1128 .E85 2006

60minutes

This program is self-teaching tool designed to teach ESL students how to pronounce, speak, remember and read with ease and confidence.

Film club (DVD)

FC105.M8 F55 2001

45 minutes

Takes viewers back to the '70s and Trudeau's new policy of multiculturalism. When a Grade 8 teacher, eager to pass along his love of cinema, formed an after-school film club, it attracted a klatch of immigrant kids eager to embrace their new country. The club became a safe haven from the harsh world around them and they made a 8 mm award winner called "Ohh Canada". Their stories, both touching and personal, reveal the surprising drama contained within apparently ordinary lives.

Fundamental freedoms

KE4381.5 .F86 2005

48 minutes

Examines the history of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the struggle surrounding the ratification of the document and the importance of the Charter in today's multicultural society. The program reviews the evolution of the Charter of Rights and each of its guarantees : the fundamental freedoms, democratic rights, mobility rights, legal rights, equality rights, language rights.

Government in Canada: citizenship in action

JL65.1991 G68 1991

123 minutes, 4 videocassettes

An ideal overview of the functioning of all levels of governments, Parliament and the Constitution and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. It focuses on real people, moments of historical importance and examples of government in action, all leavened by amusing animation.

The greatest Canadian (DVD)

FC25 .G75 2004

570 minutes, 5 DVDs

It all started with a question: Who is the Greatest Canadian? And the answers were received - loud and clear! This series charts the nation's collective efforts to name the one Canadian who is the greatest of them all. Volume 1: Tommy Douglas. Wayne Gretzky. Volume 2: Don Cherry. Sir John A. Macdonald. Terry Fox. Volume 3: Frederick Banting. Lester B. Pearson. Volume 4: Alexander Graham Bell. David Suzuki. Pierre Trudeau. Volume 5: The final showdown.

The Guid Scots tongue *King Campus*

PE1075 .G85

57 minutes

Highlights the enormous impact of the Scots in spreading the language of their historic enemies. Also traces the history of the Scottish tongue and its influences from Australia to America.

Heritage minutes

FC305 .H46 2001

130 minutes

A series of 65 vignettes bring to life notable people and events from Canada's past.

A history buried: the Duval Cummings family

FC106.B55 H57 1994

58 minutes

Rita Duvall-Cummings is the granddaughter of Pleasant Duvall who came by foot from New Orleans all the way to Collingwood in the 1860's. Her story represents the lives of many who came to Ontario to freedom along the Underground Railroad.

Hockey: a people's history (DVD) *Markham Campus*

GV846.5 .M368 2006

450 minutes, 6 DVDs

CBC's epic series chronicling the story of a game and the soul of a nation. Born as a game of survival against the snow and ice of a Canadian winter, hockey gave a new country it's first heroes and champions. Hockey is where Canada's cultures collide and rivalries divide. It's also a game that unites

us like nothing else can. In a tale that spans two centuries, this bold new series documents the power and passion of a game and the country that gave it life.

How to pronounce consonants

PE1159 .H68 1991

59 minutes

Designed to improve English pronunciation skills. Video demonstrates mouth close-ups and tongue movements to assist the viewer in learning many of the common English sounds, especially consonants.

How to pronounce vowels, diphthongs and word endings

PE1157 .H68 1991

55 minutes

Designed to improve English pronunciation skills. Video demonstrates mouth close-ups and tongue movements to assist the viewer in learning many of the common English vowels, diphthongs and word endings.

An idea of Canada (DVD) *Markham Campus*

FC95.4 .I34 2006

100 minutes

In the summer of 2002, Governor General Adrienne Clarkson and her husband toured Canada's three ocean coasts, discovering a post-modern Canada struggling to integrate cultural traditions that span from the stone age to the wired world.

An introduction to Canada

FC75 .I615 1992

15 minutes

An overview of Canada's different and diverse landscapes and people.

Land of extremes (DVD) *Markham Campus*

F1090.5 .L35 2005

52 minutes

Explores Canada's northern country, a vast canvas of towering landscapes and untouched nature. Highlights the remote, wild lands and the animals who live there.

A light history of the English language

PE1075 .L54 1997

37 minutes

Professor Elliot Engel traces the origins of language and the development of the English language from its Anglo-Saxon and French roots to the present day.

The loaded weapon *King Campus*

PE1075 .L6

57 minutes

Shows how English was first established in Ireland, and outlines the influence of Irish immigration on England, the Caribbean, the United States, and Canada.

Moments of history: Canada vignettes

FC149 .M66 1996

34 minutes

Presents a series of very brief vignettes depicting Canada's history. Table of Contents: Bluenose, Captain Cook, December lights, Fort Prince of Wales, Holidays, Lady Frances Simpson, Land Bridge, Log Driver's Waltz, Men of the Deeps, Cape Breton, Newfoundland, News Canada, Port Royal, Sodbusters, The horse, The thirties, Toronto, Trading Post, Unity pole, Vignettes from Labrador North, Voyageurs.

The mother tongue *King Campus*

PE1075 .M67

57 minutes

The story of a cultural revolution and three invasions that were instrumental in the making of modern English is told.

A muse of fire *King Campus*

PE1075 .M87

57 minutes

Examines the flowering of the English language during the Elizabethan age--Shakespeare's time, the King James Bible, and the spread of English to the New World colonies.

The muvver tongue *King Campus*

PE1075 .M88

57 minutes

Chronicles the spread of English throughout the British Empire during the nineteenth century, focusing on the making of Australian English: its Cockney origins, aboriginal influences, and growing international recognition.

News in review video series

D 848. C17....

60 minutes each

Seneca Libraries subscribes to this series of DVDs produced by the CBC 8 times per year. Each issue features an in depth analysis of 4 current news stories. An extensive resource guide providing background information and class activities is included with each video. This series is an effective teaching / learning tool for Canadian studies, global issues, history, sociology, media literacy, English and ESL. Visit the CBC [News in review web site](#) for more information, resource guides, story descriptions of current and past episodes and a subject index.

Next year's words *King Campus*

PE1075 .N48

57 minutes

Presents examples of new varieties of English, the Pidgin of Melanesia, Jamaican Creole, and Indian English, and how they are evolving.

North of 60: life in the North *Markham Campus*

E78 .C2 N67 2005

67 minutes

Explores the rich traditions and the hard reality of life in the North. Part 1 examines the traditional world of the Inuit and part 2 looks at modern day life and the harsh realities of living in the North, exploring such issues as housing, health care, and the cost of living.

Over Canada

FC59 .O93 1999

56 minutes

Presents an aerial view of Canada enhanced by a sound track consisting of brief lyrical segments and musical soundtracks from Canadian artists including Celine Dion, Bruce Cockburn and the Rankins.

Passport to Canada (DVD)

FC176 .N38 2002

172 minutes, 2 DVDs

With its sweeping imagery and moving personal stories, the Passport to Canada collection offers a stunning overview of life in Canada. Volume 1: From Coast to Coast provides an overview of the country's spectacular scenery, while introducing Canada's history and many diverse cultures. Volume 2: The Land and the People looks at Canada's climate and its diverse peoples, plants and animals; this volume also highlights two dramatic immigration stories. Rounding out the collection is Volume 3: Making it Work--a primer on citizenship that explains the basics of Canadian democracy and the roles of different levels of government. This bilingual DVD includes a bonus gallery with pictures from each province, maps, archival images and photos showing citizenship in action. The collection is accompanied by a comprehensive teacher's guide, loaded with ideas for classroom activities.

Persuasion *York Campus*

PE1408 .P445 2000

29 minutes

Persuasive writing is discussed by composition teachers, political activists, journalists advertising executives and others.

Peter Elbow on writing

PE1408 .P45 1995

43 minutes

Professor Elbow provides insight into how one works through problems in writing. He explains the role of feedback and the importance of readers and listeners to good writing.

Pioneers, o pioneers! *King Campus*

PE1075 .P55

57 minutes

Discusses the history of American English from the revolution to the 1920's, and how it has developed into a unique variety. Highlights the difference between American and Canadian English.

Postcards from Canada

FC59 .P67 2000

42 minutes

Sweeping in from the frozen vistas of the Arctic to the frenzy of rush-hour traffic, from deep within the Canadian Shield to the orbiting Radarsat satellite, Postcards from Canada takes us on a whimsical and fact-filled trip through this magnificent nation.

Race to freedom: the underground railroad

PN1997 .R156 1993

100 minutes

Thousands of American Blacks escaping slavery in 1850s North America sought sanctuary in Canada via a secret route which became known as the Underground Railroad.

Reasonable limits--the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms

KE4381.5 .R42 1993

29 minutes

This program discusses how the Charter of Rights and Freedom has changed judicial review in Canada, parliamentary supremacy, and the way Canadians think about each other.

The Senate of Canada

JL155.S46 S4 2002

22 minutes

The Fathers of confederation gave the Senate the important role of protecting regional, provincial, territorial and minority interests. For more that 130 years, Senators have represented, examined, deliberated and legislated in both official languages in the interests of all Canadians. They contribute to making Parliament a truly national institution. The video gives an overview of the Senate, its role and its structure.

The seven wonders of Canada (DVD)

News in review September 2007

D848 .C17 2007 September

15 minutes

This summer the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation organized a contest to come up with the Seven Wonders of Canada. Canadians were invited to submit their nominations, and they responded in overwhelming numbers. More than 18 000 nominations were received and hundreds of thousands of Canadians voted for their choices. For this *News in Review* story we'll look at the contest and how a panel of judges came up with their Seven Wonders.

Souvenir of Canada (DVD)

F1021.2 .S683 2005

70 minutes

uthor Douglas Coupland (Generation X, iPod) is on a journey to find out what makes Canadians Canadians. Coupland seeks out the answers in the darnedest of places: like stubby beer bottles, Ookpiks, bilingual cereal boxes and Terry Fox' worn-out sock. His dream is to build a "Canada House" to house all these unique pop objects and memories, which only Canadians will understand.

The specific is terrific

PE1408 .S664 1983

9 minutes

Shows effective use of nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs. Points out that people often fail to communicate effectively, because they are not specific in their written or verbal messages.

Standard Deviants School: ESL Series (12modules) (DVD)

PE1128 .A2 E85 2008

360minutes

Each program in this series covers vocabulary as well as a different part of speech – including pronouns, prepositions, and adjectives. Mastering the English language will seem easy for your class with the Standard Deviants!

PE 1128 .A2 E85 2008 prog.1 – Pronouns

PE 1128 .A2 E85 2008 prog.2 – Adjectives

PE 1128 .A2 E85 2008 prog.3 – The Present Tense & Possessives

PE 1128 .A2 E85 2008 prog.4 – Prepositions

PE 1128 .A2 E85 2008 prog.5 – Questions & Pointer Words

PE 1128 .A2 E85 2008 prog.6 – Days & Times

PE 1128 .A2 E85 2008 prog.7 – Possessives

PE 1128 .A2 E85 2008 prog.8 – Verb + Infinitive

PE 1128 .A2 E85 2008 prog.9 – The Past – Was & Were

PE 1128 .A2 E85 2008 prog.10 – The Past – Regular Past

PE 1128 .A2 E85 2008 prog.11 – The Past – Irregular Past

PE 1128 .A2 E85 2008 prog.12 – Adverbs

Talking Canadian

PE1075 .T35 2004

43 minutes

Words in Canada, Katherine Barber, editor-in-chief of the Oxford Canadian dictionary, gives a history of distinctly Canadian words and phrases we use in unique Canadian settings, the local pub, product names, the hockey arena, winter, summer, and food, glorious food. Talking Canadian is not so much a history lesson as an often-amusing look at our accent, intonation and vocabulary, how Canadians speak today, and how we will talk in the future.

Terry Fox: "I had a dream"

RC279.C3 T47 1981

28 minutes

Documents Fox's "Marathon of Hope" trans-Canada run to raise money for cancer research.

Trans-Canadian railway (DVD)

HE2808 .T736 1997

50 minutes

Tells the remarkable story of one of the most important engineering projects in history. Includes dramatic footage of the work crews--mostly manned by immigrant laborers-- as they forged their way across the wilderness, conquering the towering Rockies and the vast emptiness of the Plains.

The trouble with English

PE1141 .T78 2005

28 minutes

A half hour special that answers the question, "Why is English so darn hard to spell?" A look at the fascinating history of a language that is spoken by over two billion people around the world. The show features linguistics professor Jack Chambers from the University of Toronto and footage from the Spelling Bee of Canada's 2004 Ontario Provincial Championship.

Understanding Canadian government (DVD)

JL75 .U53 2005

35 minutes

This program provides a fun and colourful look at the nuts-and-bolts of our governing bodies in Canada - namely the federal and provincial governments.

Understanding Canadian law

KE444 .U53 2006

36 minutes

Topics include the constitution, charter of rights and freedoms, French & English influence, federal & provincial jurisdiction, civil code of Quebec, the courts, common law, case law, statute law, criminal law, constitutional law, administrative law, tax law, tort law, family law, contract law, etc.

Understanding local government in Canada

JS1708 .U53 2006

28 minutes

Topics include municipal government, two-tier government, city council, elections, committees, staff and administration, revenue and spending, how local governments affect our lives, specialized governing bodies, agencies, boards and commissions, school boards, intergovernmental relations, amalgamation.

Varied sentences *King Campus*

PE1441 .V37

16 minutes

Program explores creating a more effective prose style by combining sentences and by varying sentence types.

Walk a mile: the immigrant experience in Canada (DVD)

JV7225 .W35 1999

27 minutes each, 4 DVDs

This 4-part series reveals the many challenges faced by immigrants who leave all they know to make a new home in Canada. It explores issues of identity, language, discrimination, and employment, incorporating discussion, interview and dramatic re-enactments to tell the immigrants' story.

The war between us

FC106.J3 W35 1994

95 minutes

Follows the story of the Kawashima family, and brings to life the tragedy of one of the most shameful periods in Canadian history; the internment of 23,000 West Coast Japanese Canadians during the Second World War.

A world of gestures: culture and nonverbal communication

BF637.N66 W67 1991

28 minutes

Entertaining exploration of gestures from around the world as performed by English-as-a-Second-Language students in California. Examples of both illustrative and emblem gestures are given, some with contradictory meanings in different cultures; and the role of gestures in the learning of language is examined.

Write away! strategies for better writing *King Campus*

PE1404 .W67

13 cassettes

A self study course designed to provide students from all backgrounds with a variety of resources which will help them develop strategies for continued improvement of writing skills.

Writing under pressure *King Campus*

PE1408 .W7575 1995

30 cassettes

Focuses on writing that must be done "on the spot", whether in the work world or in the academic world. Explains why such writing is sometimes necessary and offers help in adjusting to the constraints involved in these stressful writing tasks. Provides help in writing essay tests.

Feature Films with Screen Plays

American Beauty (DVD)

PN1997 .A36 2000

122 minutes

Packaged as a kit with printed screenplay.

Feature film in which an emotionally and spiritually comatose suburban man decides "to hell with it all" and reverts to living as he did when he was happiest--as a carefree teenager. His desperately uptight wife and sullen daughter can only look on as he quits his corporate job to become a burger flipper, starts getting high with a strange new neighbour (whose parents are even stranger) and lusts after his daughter's best friend.

Chocolat (DVD)

PN1997 .C46 2000

122 minutes

Packaged as a kit with printed screenplay.

Nobody could have imagined the impact that the striking Vianne would make when she arrived in a tranquil, old-fashioned French town. In her very unusual chocolate shop, Vianne begins to create mouth-watering confections that almost magically inspire the strait-laced villagers to abandon themselves to temptation and happiness! But it is not until another stranger, the handsome Roux, arrives in town that Vianne is finally able to recognize her own desires!

The Cider House Rules (DVD)

PN1997 .C53 2000

125 minutes

Packaged as a kit with printed screenplay.

Homer Wells has lived nearly his entire life within the walls of St. Cloud's Orphanage in rural Maine. Though groomed by its proprietor, Dr. Larch, to be his successor, Homer nonetheless feels the need to strike out on his own and experience the world outside.

Dead Man Walking (DVD)

PN1997 .D375 1999

122 minutes

Packaged as a kit with printed screenplay.

Tells the story of convicted killer Matthew Poncelet and Sister Helen Prejean, his spiritual advisor, and the journey they undertake in search of the truth.

Erin Brockovich (DVD)

PN1997 .E74 2000

132 minutes

Packaged as a kit with printed screenplay.

Feature film in which Julia Roberts stars as Eric Brockovich, a feisty young mother who fought for justice any way she knew how.

Mansfield Park (DVD)

PN1997 .M36 2000

102 minutes

Packaged as a kit with printed screenplay.

Feature film in which Fanny Price is sent away to live with her rich cousins, she's meant to learn the ways of proper society but manages to enlighten them as well.

A Midsummer Night's Dream (DVD)

PN1997 .M53 1999

120 minutes

Packaged as a kit with printed screenplay.

Based on the play by William Shakespeare. Lovers lives are complicated by city law, feuding faerie royalty, and... love.

The Princess Bride (DVD)

PN1995.9.C55 P755 2001

98 minutes

Packaged as a kit with printed screenplay.

Buttercup loves Westley, but when he is captured by pirates, she is chosen by the evil Prince to be his bride, beginning a series of fantastic efforts to free her.

Seabiscuit (DVD)

PN 1997. S43 2003

141 minutes

Packaged as a kit with printed screenplay.

True story of the undersized Depression-era racehorse whose victories lifted not only the spirits of the three-man team behind it but also those of the nation as well.

Feature and Short Films Popular for ESL Classroom Use**10 things I hate about you (DVD)**

PN1997 .A126 2001

97 minutes

In an updated version of Shakespeare's *Taming of the Shrew*, new kid Cameron James is head over heels for popular sophomore Bianca Stratford, but Bianca's overprotective father forbids her to date Cameron unless Bianca's older ill-tempered, rebellious sister Kat dates.

America at a crossroads. Stand up : Muslim American comics come of age a production (DVD)

HV6431 .A534 2007

60 minutes

Muslim and Arab-American comedians describe how they use humor to take on stereotypes about their religion and politics, in the wake of 9/11.

Amreeka (DVD)

PN1997.2 .A47 2009

96 minutes

Muna Farah, a Palestinian single mom, struggles to maintain her optimistic spirit in the daily grind of intimidating West Bank checkpoints, the constant nagging of a controlling mother, and the haunting shadows of a failed marriage. Everything changes one day when she receives a letter informing her that her family has been granted a U.S. green card, and she moves with her teenage son to small town Illinois.

Be my valentine, Charlie Brown (DVD)

PN1997.5.B46 B46 2002

25 minutes

Animated film in which all the Peanuts characters set their hopes on delivering or receiving special valentines, and most are disappointed when the day finally arrives

Bend it like Beckham (DVD)

PN1997.2 .B46 2003

112 minutes

Tells the story of an English and a Sikh immigrant girl who both dream of becoming professional soccer players, despite the disapproval of their parents and some clash-of-culture issues.

Charlotte's web (DVD)

PZ7.W58277 C43 2007

96 minutes

Based on the book by E.B. White. In ordinary Somerset County, a young farm girl named Fern rescues the runt of a litter of pigs from her father's ax. Fern names the pig Wilbur, takes care of him, and continues to visit him every day after he is moved to her Uncle Homer Zuckerman's barn across the road. But it's Wilbur's friendship with Charlotte the spider that ultimately saves him from the "smoke house" when Charlotte's talent for weaving praiseworthy words about Wilbur into her web, along with a little help from Templeton the rat and the other barn inhabitants, turns the Zuckerman farm into a tourist attraction.

Double happiness

PN1997 .D558 2002

87 minutes

Jade Li, a twenty-two year old aspiring actress, is an irreverent, cheeky Chinese-Canadian still living at home with her parents and her younger sister. Jade agrees to an arranged marriage but her life is complicated when she meets Mark, a Caucasian university student.

Eve & the fire horse (DVD)

PN1997.2 .E94 2006

92 minutes

Eve is a precocious nine year-old girl with a wild imagination growing up in a traditional Chinese immigrant family in Vancouver where Confucian doctrines, superstitious obsessions and divine visions abound. When Buddhism and Catholicism are thrown into the mix, life for Eve and her 11-year-old prim and authoritative sister, Karena, escalates into a fantasia of catastrophe, sainthood and cultural confusion.

Floating life

PN1997 .F56 1996

93 minutes

Several members and generations of the same Chinese family try to cope with modern life in China, Hong Kong, Australia, and Germany.

Forrest Gump

PN1997 .F677 1994

142 minutes

Through 3 turbulent decades, Forrest rides a tide of events that whisks him from physical disability to football stardom, from Vietnam hero to shrimp tycoon, from White House honours to the arms of his one true love. Forrest is the embodiment of an era, an innocent at large in an America that is losing its innocence. His heart know what his limited IQ cannot. His moral compass never wavers. His triumphs become an inspiration to us all.

Friends: the complete sixth season (DVD)

PN1992.8 .C66 F54 2004

569 minutes, 4 DVDs

Chandler moves in with Monica and Rachel moves in with Phoebe. Joey is on the hunt for a new roommate. Ross and Rachel seek annulment and, eventually, divorce with their typically hilarious amicable acrimony. Ross dates a student, Elizabeth. Her father in turn ends up wooing a willing Rachel. Monica's former beau, Richard confesses his lingering love for her. There is no cliff-hanger this time, though, and Monica and Chandler wind up agreeing to tie the knot.

High school musical (DVD)

PN1995.9.M86 H544 2006

97 minutes

A popular high school basketball star and a shy, academically gifted newcomer secretly decide to audition for their school's musical, a decision that turns their world and their school upside down.

Hogtown blues (DVD)

PN1997 .H64 2004

18 minutes

Toronto. Home to scores of refugees, many of them doctors and teachers, who mop floors and work on assembly lines just to survive. Among them are Katsia, a single mother, and her estranged father Alexi, who together are forced to confront their dark and rugged past.

Holes (DVD)

PN1995.9 .A3 H65 2003

117 minutes

Young Stanley Yelnats finds himself at Camp Green Lake, where digging a hole a day keeps the warden at bay and "builds character". An ancient family curse still dogs Stanley and he's thrown headlong into the adventure of his life. Stanley and his campmates will have to forge fast friendships to unearth the mystery of what's really going on in the desert.

House of sand and fog (DVD)

PN1997 .H68 2004

126 minutes

Kathy gets evicted from her home for failing to pay a tax she never should have been charged to pay in the first place. The house is swiftly put up for auction and bought by a former military officer from Iran named Behrani. When legal efforts fail her, Kathy turns to a sympathetic cop who wants out of a loveless marriage and who is willing to step over legal boundaries if it might give him the fresh start he is so badly craving.

The hunchback of Notre Dame (DVD)

PN1997 .H863 2001

110 minutes

PN1997 .H86 1997

117 minutes

Based on the novel by Victor Hugo. The beautiful Esmeralda befriends Quasimodo, the mysterious hunchback who hides in the bell tower of Notre Dame Cathedral.

In the shadow of gold mountain (DVD)

FC106.C5 I58 2004

43 minutes

Uncovers stories from the last living survivors of the Chinese Head Tax and Exclusion Act. These personal accounts of extraordinary Chinese Canadians, are stories of personal strength, of families torn apart, and of a community's struggle for civil rights and redress.

An inconvenient truth (DVD)

QC981.8.G56 I533 2006

96 minutes

[Seneca streaming video](#)

Former Vice President Al Gore explains the facts of global warming, presents arguments that the dangers of global warming have reached the level of crisis, and addresses the efforts of certain interests to discredit the anti-global warming cause. Between lecture segments, Gore discusses his personal commitment to the environment, sharing anecdotes from his experiences.

It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown (DVD)

PN1997.5 .I87 2000

25 minutes

It's Halloween, & Snoopy is playing a World War II ace, Charlie Brown, Lucy, & Pig Pen are out trick-or-treating, and Linus is awaiting the arrival of the Great Pumpkin.

James and the giant peach (DVD)

PN1997.5 J36 2001

79 minutes

Taken away from his mother and father by a rhino, James is forced to live with his horrible aunts, Spiker and Sponge. One day, after saving a spider from being squashed by his aunt, he meets a man who gives him magical little creatures called crocodile tongues. He takes them but lets them loose. Working their magic, they cause a peach to grow on a tree in front of the house. The peach grows bigger and bigger.

The Joy Luck Club (DVD)

PN1997.J69 J69 2002

139 minutes

Based upon the novel by Amy Tan. The stories of four native-born Chinese women and their American-born daughters, showing the influence each has on the others' lives, and how they are the same and different

A lot to share

BL410 .L68 1994

24 minutes

Two congregations in North Toronto, a Jewish synagogue and an Islamic mosque, have occupied adjacent properties for 15 years. A story of the relationship between two seemingly different groups who have discovered that they have some very real reasons for co-existing peacefully.

The miracle worker

PS3513.I2824 M542 2000

90 minutes

Based on the play by William Gibson. The contemporary version of the classic true story of Helen Keller and Annie Sullivan.

Mr. Holland's opus (DVD)

PN1997 .M79 1995

143 minutes

A musician resorts to teaching for financial security and discovers his own gift is teaching.

My big fat Greek wedding (DVD)

PN1997 .M93 2003

96 minutes

A young Greek-American woman, changes her life for the better and falls in love with a non-Greek man; now that she has found happiness, she must learn to come terms with her heritage while attempting to get her family to accept her new love.

Peter Pan (DVD)

PN1995.9 .P49 2004

114 minutes

The Darling family children receive a visit from Peter Pan, who takes them to Never Never Land where an ongoing war with the evil Pirate Captain Hook is taking place.

Saving face: a new comedy (DVD)

PN1997.2 .S38 2005

97 minutes

Wilhelmina is a Chinese-American lesbian and a young surgeon who has kept her sexual orientation secret from her conservative Chinese community in New York. When her widowed mother becomes pregnant and is kicked out by her own parents, Wil suddenly has to juggle her mother's secrets with her own. Wil has a new romance with Vivian who is a ballet dancer and the daughter of Wil's boss.

Shake hands with the devil: the journey of Romeo Dallaire (DVD)

DT450.435 .D345 2004

112 minutes

Follow the searing, emotional journey of Canadian Lt-General Romeo Dallaire, who commanded the UN peacekeeping troops in Rwanda in 1994. It was during this mission that 800,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus were slaughtered during the Rwanda genocide.

Spanglish (DVD)

PN1997.2 .S36 2004

131 minutes

When Flor and her daughter come to the United States, Flor gets a job as a maid at the home of a successful chef John Clasky, his insecure wife Deborah, their two children, and Deborah's mother. Despite Flor's lack of an English, she does the best she can to assist the Clasky family in more than just house cleaning matters. Told through Christina's college letter to Princeton University, Christina learns that things come and go in life, but family is the most important thing a person can have.

Spirit of the dragon (DVD)

FC106.C5 S65 2002

25 minutes

The story of Jean Lumb, who came from modest beginnings and worked hard to establish a successful business. She was awarded the Order of Canada for her role in changing Canadian immigration laws, so that Chinese Canadian families could be reunited.

Super size me (DVD)

TX945.3 .S87 2004

100 minutes

Filmmaker Morgan Spurlock embarks on a journey to find out if fast food is making Americans fat. For 30 days he can't eat or drink anything that isn't on McDonald's menu; he must eat three square meals a day, he must eat everything on the menu at least once and supersize his meal if asked. He treks across the country interviewing a host of experts on fast food and a number of regular folk while downing McDonald's to try and find out why 37% of American are now overweight. Spurlock's gruelling diet spirals him into a metamorphosis that will make you think twice about picking up another Big Mac.

The sweater, a childhood recollection

PN1997 .S83 1980

11 minutes

Based on book: The hockey sweater and other stories. An animated version of the short story by Roch Carrier, based on his boyhood experiences in rural Quebec in the late 1940's.

Thank you for smoking (DVD)

PN1995.9.C55 T4365 2006

91 minutes

Nick Naylor is a sexy, smart and charismatic spin-doctor for Big Tobacco who will fight to protect American's right to smoke. At the same time he is trying to maintain the idea of a perfect role model for his 12-year-old son. When Nick incurs the wrath of a senator bent on snuffing out cigarettes, Nick's powers of "filtering the truth" will be put to the test.

The Truman show (DVD)

PN1997 .T74 1999

103 minutes

Truman's life is a fake. He lives in a big studio with hidden cameras everywhere. His friends and co-workers are actors who play their roles in the most popular television series in the world: The Truman show. He thinks he is an ordinary man and has no idea about how he is being exploited. What will he do when he finds out?

The way of the willow

HV640.5.V5 W39

26 minutes

A dramatization of a Vietnamese refugee family's traumas upon their arrival in Canada, and the confused reactions of their sponsors. Show how the family struggle to adjust to life in Canada amid prejudice and culture shock.

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