



Literacy  
Film Studies  
6th Grade  
Xavier Prep:

As part of Ms. Xavier’s Mary Poppins Enters the 21st Century Project (Published in 2019- Iste Literacy Blog), students were asked to compare and to contrast the various moods, tone, and film styles of the 2018 version of Mary Poppins versus the 1964 version.

Here are their astute film goer responses:

Ahmed Asif

I prefer the 2nd trailer because people who like the 1st trailer can make nostalgic



connections to the past classic first film as they view the second trailer. You can also see how the characters changed by viewing the two

trailers. In particular, the second trailer details what Michael and Jane are doing as adults.

This 1st trailer is more effective. It is more effective because it gives us more information about the plot. For example, it shows us who the Banks children are. It also tells us a little about Mary Poppins and her superpowers. I would say the 2nd trailer is not as affective because if you watch the 1st trailer you get a better understanding of the storyline.

Mood Of:

• Joyful – every one is happy	Gloomy – Michael is having problems in adulthood and wants to leave his childhood
	• Upseting – Michael’s wife

Ms. Xavier and Dr. Rose challenged the students to consider whether an author paid by a film company for the rights to her book as was P. L. Travers has a right to be upset when the film version of that work includes animations, pretty costumes, songs, and dances which differ in tone and theme from her work.

COMPARATIVE MOODS OF THE TRAILERS

ARTICLE BY SUBHA HOQUE

As part of their study of the films, students were asked should they in 2019 study contemporary 21st Century books or still study books authored in the 19th and 20th centuries? I think children should read older books.

Reading is an experience. A book is an object that can transport you to an entirely different place through simply a phrase or specific wording. We already experience our current lives and struggles, as we read modern books. Classic works can help readers relate. We the readers can imagine these plots and stories because we can relate to the characters. What makes classic books exciting and interesting is the fact that we don’t know about it, we haven’t been through the challenges the characters face. Why waste your youth reading books about modern day experiences you already confront? Yes, it is good it to able to relate to books as a modern day person. Yet that type of reading isn’t nearly as pleasant as reading about some challenge or situation you haven’t been through.

Here are some of their responses as eleven year viewers of the films.

Subha Hoque

Of course the writer has a right to be upset. The author has put his/her ideas and perhaps years of work into the published book. Yet it has been selected for film production only for it to be changed. If the film version shifts the author’s tone and intent drastically, the author has good reason to be upset.No author enjoys it when someone romanticizes their work. Most of the time, people can’t differentiate between adding details and changing it.

Brissia LopezH

HARBOR ME MODELS COPING MECHANISMS

Jacqueline Woodson’s Harbor Me teaches readers about a peer who is facing a serious problem that is common in America. His father is in the process of being deported. Any child knows how much a dad means to a child.

Most children would react by crying or complaining.

This 11 year old handles the situation differently. He reads and treasures the poems his father sends him in Spanish from the detention center. Esteban decides to translate

the poems into English and sell them in the United States and the Dominican Republic. His friends also support him through this time period. They tell him not to worry. This support helps him to be less stressed.

This is realistic and needed book for children in middle school who often deal with hard times in their young lives. In my own life when my father went to El Salvador for two weeks, I was left alone. I was depressed during the day and just wanted to sleep. Art helped me express my emotions. It helped me cope.

I have also found that crying to one’s sister helps with coping.

Dhorill Uamo  
I.S. 62 650

I think it’s better for today’s children to read modern books because kids like to read about what they know and they don’t really know what was invented back then. Why would a kid read about flip-phones if they have smart phones? Another reason why is because they wouldn’t really know that you could have bought candy with one penny.

2) An author should be unhappy with a film studio even if he/she makes millions off the music/play because all the credit should go to the author because if he/she never existed that book would never turn into a hit movie or play and the company gets most of the money. And the author wasted all their time for something she/he personally does not like. But at the same time he/she should think about their readers.

Brianna Kewal

MARY POPPINS TRAILERS

I prefer the more recent trailer 2018 movie trailer, only because of the graphics and attractions. It is more modern. It has more color plus a sort of mysterious vibe to it. The first trailer isn’t that attractive. It has an old vibe to it. It seems too fun-filled for me.

The 2018 one has a good formula mix of fun and mystery. The 2018 has Emily Blunt, one of

my favorite actresses, who played in the movies, The Huntsman: Winter’s War and Sherlock Gnomes. The music in the background was very powerful.

The 2018 is more effective because it grabs the watcher’s attention. The second trailer is also more up-to-date, so the kids of this generation will like it more. The graphics were very bland. The 2018 one’s graphics is more lively and don’t have cartoons making up most of the trailer. The fact that the 2018 trailer is a sequel to a very famous movie grabs past viewers’ attention. The way they cut off each scene also leaves a hint of mystery, which makes people want to see it.

Naba Abiba January 22 650 ELA

“A spoonful of sugar helps the medicine go down,” “In every job done there is an element of fun” and “Feed the birds, show them you care” all contain life lessons which are applicable in real life. “A spoonful of sugar helps the medicine go down” shows that when things get a bit tough, a good spirit, or something good helps make the situation easier. “In every job done there is an element of fun” is how there’s always a good side to something bad. “Feed the birds, show them you care” means to show some one you care, you have to show affection and can’t just keep it to yourself that you care about them. If a loved one just passed away, remembering the good moments is like the “sugar” and “helps the medicine go down” is helps you feel not THAT sad. When your doing your chores, (In every job done) you might find something– which is the element of fun.

For“Feed the birds show them you care,” There are many siblings that think that the other one hates them. By showing affection there won’t be misunderstandings like that. All these sayings from Mary Poppins’s songs have a

deeper lesson which we can all use for future situations.

Argent Voca 680 1/15/19

Both Mary Poppins trailers were interesting and well filmed, but I liked the second trailer more. I feel the second trailer was more my generation of movies and really pull

I feel that trailer 2 really was more effective because 1 it has better graphics and props. 2 It wanted the easier viewers of the first Mary Poppins movie to watch the sequel.

The Tone for the First trailer is cheerful. One example is all of the cheerful musicals and songs. Another example is when Mary Poppins was singing to the bird.In the second trailer the tone was excitement. For example in the trailer every character was coming back from an old movie.

Also everyone wants to see how they would make the movie.

Subhah Hoque 1/15/19 650 I.S.62

**Question One:**I prefer the second one. Not only because 3 celebrities that I like are acting in it, but it has more meat to it.An actual plot with character development, twists, and the character’s personalities are more discernible from each other than the first. But then again, having celebrities was a smart choice. Choosing what appeals to the majority is also why I like the second one better. Also, it seemed more professional and cleaner than the first.

**Question Two:** I feel like the second is more effective. Continuing a beloved story with simplistic summarizing as to what happens draws people in. Also, like I stated before, choosing well-known celebrities will make more people want to see it. Even if it is a famous and iconic story, seeing familiar faces mixed in will make the movie more desirable to the audience.

**Question Three:** For the first trailer, the mood is whimsical and light-hearted. It has a

more childish air to it that even adults would enjoy. It is almost comical, having a thrilling and exciting feel to it that makes you want to jump in and go on their adventure with them. In addition, the mischievous Anna also adds to the state of awe the entire trailer leaves you in. Like when Jane and Michael shoot the cannon, it wouldn’t be surprising if you jumped because of how the trailer almost leaves you in a trance. From the animated fireworks to the joy on each character’s faces, it has that power to put a smile on your face just as well. For the second trailer, it has a much more serious tone, right off the bat with Michael throwing away the kite and claiming that he had outgrown these childish antics.

You could tell the kite is a very important (and symbolic) item from the fact that they put it in the trailer instead of the movie itself, and from the disappointed and sad look on Jane’s face as Michael declares his maturity. This instantly gives off a somber tone.But as Mary Poppins returns from her overdue absence, the exciting and action packed adventure begins. It has an exhilarating mood to it, and is also slightly comical. It is not as light-hearted as the first, which is appropriate, but still extremely lovable.

Shamsad Rahman1/11/19670 ELA1

I prefer the 1st trailer. The 1st trailer is the more fun, modern, it’s classic and it has a mixture of the real life to the animated. So, in the 1st Mary Poppins trailer, the movie is in real life, but it also has animations, cartoon characters in it. So, the movie might be in real life, but it also is animated (with cartoons).

I think that the 1st trailer is more effective because of how it wants you to watch the movie so bad. For example it keeps on giving this exiting feeling and it gives the most spectacular scenes, to try to make you want to watch the movie.



Both trailers have an exiting mood, and some awesome scenes to prove that.The trailer #2 though has a little different type of mood, like it’s an exiting and fun too, mood near the end, but the mood of trailer #2 makes me feel there might be another kind of obstacle or conflict or little problem in the movie. To maybe make the movie or trailer a little more interesting? Probably. But, both trailers do have a kind of mood, that will make people really want to see their movies.

Sodid 670 1/19/

I think the 1964 Marry Poppins trailer is more better. The 1964 trailer have a good vibe..The trailer is more action. The trailer is more interesting and it have cartoon with it.

The 2019 Marry Poppins iS more effective. It is more new. It have better graphics. It is more interesting for more people. The trailer shows all these tricks and cool stuff about the movie.

The 1964 trailer was more happy. People were happy, dancing, and colorful. 2019trailer more sad because the Mom died. Everyone where black. Less action happen in the trailer. Mary Poppins tried to make them happy.