

Talking about the Academy Awards and the film industry – Die Kommunikationsfähigkeit unter Verwendung von *If-Clauses* fördern (ab Klasse 10)

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Im März ist es wieder so weit – einer der bedeutendsten Preise der Filmindustrie, der sogenannte Oscar, wird verliehen. Die Ehrung rund um die Preisverleihung, Filme und die Welt Hollywoods stoßen auch bei vielen jungen Erwachsenen auf Interesse. Im Englischunterricht können Sie das Thema „Hollywood und die Filmindustrie“ nutzen, um Schülerinnen und Schüler zu motivieren, ihre Meinungen zu aktuellen gesellschaftlichen Themen wie zum Beispiel „Diversity (in film)“ in Interaktionsformen wie Interviews, Diskussionen oder Reden zu äußern. Nebenbei nutzen sie das Thema, um die kommunikativen Funktionen der *Conditional Clauses* zu festigen.

KOMPETENZPROFIL

Klassenstufe: ab Klasse 10

Dauer: 1–7 Unterrichtsstunden + LEK

Kompetenzen: 1. Lesen: kurzen Sachtexten relevante Informationen entnehmen; 2. Hör-Seh-Verstehen: Videos relevante Informationen entnehmen; 3. Sprechen: ein Interview, Diskussionen und eine Debatte durchführen; 4. Sprachkompetenz: Gebrauchsbedingungen der *Conditional Clauses* anwenden

Thematische Bereiche: *Culture of English-speaking countries, diversity, equality; Conditional Clauses*

Auf einen Blick

1. Stunde

Thema:	The Academy Award ceremony
M 1	The Oscar statuette: A prestigious award – Picture analysis / ein Bild beschreiben und kreativ mit dem Bild arbeiten (EA, PA, PL)
M 2	“And the Oscar goes to...” – A text about the Academy Award of Merit / den Gebrauch von Bedingungssätzen im Zusammenhang mithilfe eines kurzen Sachtexts festigen (GA, EA, PL)
Hausaufgabe:	Eine Recherche über Hintergrundinformationen (Fun Facts, Gewinner und Gewinnerinnen, den Ablauf der Veranstaltung, ...) zu den Oscar-Verleihungen durchführen (optional)

2./3. Stunde

Thema:	The importance of diversity in the film industry
M 3	Diversity in the film industry – A comment / sich anhand eines Textes über das Thema <i>Diversity in film</i> austauschen, einen Kommentar zum Thema schreiben und Bedingungssätze festigen (EA, PA, GA, PL)

4. Stunde

Thema:	A controversial episode: Will Smith and Chris Rock
M 4	A slap in the face: A scandalous event? – A debate / ein Video über einen Skandal bei den Oscars verstehen und sich darüber austauschen (EA, PL); von Bedingungssätzen die eigene Position zum Vorfall darlegen (GA); eine Debatte zum Vorfall führen (GA, PL)
Benötigt:	Internetzugang, um das Video anzusehen

5. Stunde

Thema:	Interviews with award winners
M 5	Interview with a winner – Conducting an own dialogue / vor dem Hintergrund eines Videos ein fiktives Interview mit einer berühmten Persönlichkeit führen (PA, PL)
Benötigt:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internetzugang, um das Video anzusehen

Diversity in the film industry – A comment

M 3

“The Oscar” is not the only prize given in the American film industry. Another famous event in the film world is the Golden Globe, organised by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA). Learn more about it.

Tasks

- With a partner or in groups of three: Talk about the questions a) and b).
 - What do you already know about the Golden Globe Awards?
 - What are some of the controversies surrounding the Golden Globe Awards?
- Think about a film with a character or characters in it who has or have a problem connected to diversity.
 - Take notes: What situation are they in? What conflicts do they face? In what predicaments do they find themselves?
 - Put yourself in their shoes and imagine what they are going through. Write some sentences about how you would feel or what you would do. Here is some language help:
If I were XY, I would / wouldn't / would never / would, by all means ...

- Read the text. While reading, mark important passages.

Golden Globes overshadowed by ethics controversy and criticism over lack of diversity

[...] The Hollywood Foreign Press Association, a group of 87 international journalists who vote on the award, is coming under fire after the Los Angeles Times published two damning exposés [...]. It has been accused of “ethical lapses” with members reportedly flown to Paris in support of the Netflix comedy *Emily in Paris*, which received two nominations, while also being paid nearly \$2m by the group between 2019 and 2020. The lack of diversity (there isn't a single Black member) has also been criticised in a year when a number of Black performances, films and shows have been ignored. Michaela Coel's universally acclaimed drama *I May Destroy You* failed to secure a single nomination while *One Night in Miami*, *Judas and the Black Messiah*, *Da 5 Bloods* and *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* were all ignored in the best picture category.

Source: Benjamin Lee: Golden Globes overshadowed by ethics controversy and criticism over lack of diversity, *The Guardian* 26.02.2021 <https://www.theguardian.com/film/2021/feb/26/golden-globes-ethics-controversy-criticism-lack-diversity> [last access: 20/12/2023]

- Take notes about your own thoughts about the text and then discuss in class:
 - What are the main points in the text about the Golden Globe Awards?
 - What are some implications of the text for the future of the Golden Globe Awards?

The 2021 Golden Globe Awards ceremony had a Black host, Jerrod Carmichael. These were his opening sentences:

“Hello. Welcome to the 80th annual Golden Globe Awards. I am your host, Jerrod Carmichael. And I just tell you why I'm here. I'm here 'cause I'm Black.”

 - What do you think the HFPA chose to have a Black host?
 - What did Jerrod Carmichael mean by his opening sentences?
 - What is your opinion about HFPA's choice?

5. Based on the discussions and ideas heard in class and on your own thoughts, write a comment about the importance of diversity in films and in the film industry.
6. Write a film outline about a character who experiences diversity or inclusion. Be sure to address the following:
- What type of diversity or inclusion does the character experience?
 - How does the character react to this experience?
 - What does the character learn from this experience?
7. Practice Conditional Clauses with the text about the Golden Globes.
- a) Fill in the blanks:
- A. If the Golden Globes were more ethical, _____.
- B. If the Golden Globes were more inclusive, _____.
- C. If the Hollywood Foreign Press Association were more diverse, _____.
- D. If the Golden Globes were more transparent, _____.
- E. If the Golden Globes were more accountable, _____.
- b) Write Conditional sentences using Past Tenses to describe what would happen if certain conditions were met:
- A. If the Hollywood Foreign Press Association had been more diverse, _____.
- B. If the Golden Globes had been more ethical, _____.
- C. If the Golden Globes had been more inclusive, _____.
- D. If the Golden Globes had been more accountable, _____.
8. Imagine that you are a member of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA), and you have been tasked with making the Golden Globe Awards more diverse. What changes would you make?
Write a list of conditional sentences describing what you would do if you were in charge of the HFPA.

Useful vocabulary

social background – ethnic background – religious background / religion – sexual orientation
– disability – gender – national origin – education – (to) include / inclusion – (to) respect –
(to) empower

A slap in the face: A scandalous event? – A debate

Award ceremonies such as the Oscars or the Golden Globe are not always exclusively about talent and glamour. Conflicts or even scandalous events also happen every now and then. In 2022, for example, there was an unpleasant and quite controversial episode between Will Smith and the presenter, Chris Rock.



Will Smith slaps Chris Rock at the 2022 Oscars
Watch the video
https://raabe.click/Will_Smith_vs_Chris_Rock

© picture alliance / REUTERS | Brian Snyder

Tasks

1. Watch the video: What was the reason for Will Smith's behaviour? Explain.
2. Discuss in small groups using the Conditional 3:
 - How would you have reacted in Chris Rock's place?
 - How would you have reacted to the joke?
 - How would you have felt?
 - How would you have felt sitting in the audience?
 - How would you have reacted as the organiser of the event?
3. Divide into two groups: one group supports Will Smith's actions and the other group supports Chris Rock's actions. Debate and provide arguments to support your position.

To organise the debate, follow these steps:

- **Choose a moderator.** The moderator is responsible for keeping the debate on track and ensuring that all participants have a chance to speak.
- **Divide the debaters** into two teams.
- **Choose a topic.** This could be something like "Was Will Smith justified in slapping Chris Rock?" or "Who is more responsible for the incident: Will Smith or Chris Rock?"
- **Have each team prepare opening statements.** The statements should introduce the team's position on the topic and provide a brief overview of the arguments that they will be making.
- **Begin the debate.** The moderator will call on each team to present their arguments.
- **Allow time for rebuttals.** After each team has presented its arguments, the moderator may allow time for rebuttals. The teams respond to each other's arguments.
- **The moderator concludes the debate.** The moderator will summarise the main arguments of each team and offer his/her own thoughts on the topic.

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