



Five films in focus

Film ist eine der Hauptkunstgattungen unserer Zeit. Das ist Grund genug, sich damit eingehend zu befassen.

BRIAN MCCREDIE hat fünf englischsprachige Klassiker ausgewählt, die ganz oben auf der Liste der berühmtesten Filme stehen und bietet Übungen dazu an. 

What do film critics and old married couples have in common? They respect each other, but agree about nothing. So where does one start when choosing among the greatest silent and talking films ever made — from W. D. Griffith's *Birth of a Nation* (1915) to *Brokeback Mountain* (2005)? There's a certain consensus among critics about *Gone with the Wind* (1939), *The Third Man* (1949), *High Noon* (1952), *Out of Africa* (1985) and *Forrest Gump* (1994). Each has one or more unforgettable scenes, from the burning of Atlanta, Georgia, in *Gone with the Wind* to the gunfight in *High Noon*, or the burial of the hero in *Out of Africa*. Here's a closer look at five classic episodes from those five screen hits, with exercises to test your knowledge of films and film language. 

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| burial ['beriəl] | Beerdigung |
| gunfight ['gʌnfait] | Schießerei, Feuergefecht |
| screen [skri:n] | Leinwand |
| talking film ['tɔ:kɪŋ ,fɪlm] | Tonfilm |



Quiet before the storm: Rhett Butler (Clark Gable) and Scarlett O'Hara (Vivienne Leigh) share an intimate moment



The love story

Gone with the Wind is a love story and a drama that takes place during the American Civil War (1861–65). Scarlett O'Hara — rich, spoilt, lovely — is crazy about Ashley Wilkes, but he loves another. Instead, Scarlett marries the charming adventurer Rhett Butler. The background to their romance is the civil war and the end of the Southern way of life. For some, the classic image is Scarlett walking among the dying and wounded in Atlanta, Georgia. For others, the best scene is at the very end of the film, when Rhett tells Scarlett he is leaving her, and she asks: “What shall I do?” His reply has become iconic for male chauvinists ever since: “Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn!”

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| fine [faɪn] | Bußgeld |
| iconic [aɪ'kɒnɪk] | kultig, Standard |
| I don't give a damn! <i>ifml.</i> [,aɪ dɒnt ,gɪv ə 'dæm] | Das ist mir scheißegal! |
| spoilt ['spɔɪlt] | verwöhnt |



Atlanta burning: Scarlett and Rhett join the evacuees

1. Say that again, Rhett

The choice of words for Rhett Butler's unforgettable line was highly controversial at the time. In fact, the studio almost had to pay a fine of \$5,000 for bad language. What might Rhett have said if he had been a more modern character, or British? Unscramble these phrases, then check with the answers to see how to use them.

“Well actually, love, ...”

a) I / care / less / couldn't

b) don't / I / hoot / give / a

c) all / I / don't / at / mind

d) bother / it / bit / me / one / doesn't

e) couldn't / give / monkey's / a / I

f) a / I / fig / give / don't

g) the / doesn't / in / it / me / slightest / interest

Answers: 1. a) I couldn't care less! (ifml.); b) I don't give a hoot! (old-fashioned); c) I don't mind at all! d) It doesn't bother me one bit! e) I couldn't give a monkey's! (UK ifml.); f) I don't give a fig! (old-fashioned, UK ifml.); g) It doesn't interest me in the slightest! c), d) and g) would be the most acceptable answers.