

Hello guys ! Today we're going to work on the text I gave you yesterday. I think it is interesting because it allows us to see that the war film genre is not limited to one specific aspect of the war. War films can show us many different things... Let's see that together !

### Identify the speakers' opinions.

The document is a conversation between two people about war films.

They share opposite opinions about war movies. They expose the reasons why they like or dislike war films, and talk about the point of making war films.

### Identify the reasons and the examples they give.

	The speakers' opinion	The reasons and examples they give
The person who likes war films	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to show how horrible war is, they have to show the violence/</li> <li>- there are lots of kinds of war films.</li> <li>- war films can have different purposes (anti war...)</li> </ul>	<i>Bridge on the River Kwai, Great Escape, Tigerland</i> . They do not have to show armed combat, they can focus on other aspects (military training for instance). <i>The Thin Red Line, Apocalypse Now</i> . They show violence to criticise war in general.
The person who doesn't like war films	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- all war films are the same /</li> <li>- they glorify violent battles /</li> <li>- does it always have to be realistic ?</li> <li>- The point of the filmmaker is to portray a war and the men who fought it, not report on it.</li> </ul>	<i>Top Gun</i> . War films can be non violent and they don't necessarily have to be realistic because the point is not to make a report of a war.

### Reasons why people like war films:

- action-packed (riche en événements);
- exciting;
- learning more about history;
- new perspective on war;

### Reasons why people don't like war films:

- violent;
- predictable, stereotypical;
- useless;
- stereotypical portrayal of the US soldiers and of their enemies;

### The main characteristics of war films:

Obviously, most war films are violent, because they deal with violence. Most of them show combat scenes, but some are bloodier or more gruesome than others.

Almost all war films are action-packed, but many war films are also made to: - tell more about a war, or denounce a conflict which is unknown to people, - offer a new perspective on a major historical event, - or convey a message about a particular war, or about warfare in general.

The soldiers usually illustrate the impact of the war on the individual. The soldiers can be portrayed either as brave, strong, heroic, or as discouraged, fearful or even traumatized.

Ce document nous a donc permis de découvrir les caractéristiques du genre. Vous aviez peut être déjà conscience de cela mais dire que les films de guerre sont tous les mêmes est très réducteur. On pourrait presque établir une liste de “sous-genres”. Ce que l'on voit à l'écran peut dépendre de ce que le réalisateur souhaite montrer, raconter ou même dénoncer... En fonction de cela, les soldats ne seront pas représentés de la même manière.

## WW2: Guts and Glory.

### WORLD WAR 2 : 1941-1945

#### US involvement

- **1941** : most European countries, except Great Britain, occupied by Germany.
- **December 1941** : Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii brings the USA into WW2.
- **6<sup>th</sup> June 1944** : “D Day”: American and British troops land in France and advance toward Berlin.
- **May 8, 1945**: Armistice.
- **August 1945**: Japan surrenders after the USA drops atomic bombs on Hiroshima and on Nagasaki.

**Number of US soldiers involved:**  
**16,100,000**

**US casualties: 405,400.**

**Total casualties: 60,000,000.**



Look at the film poster and date the film. Explain your reasons.  
Describe it and discuss how the soldiers are portrayed.