

John Kelleher



John Kelleher is an independent film producer. His first major film production was the 1980s Irish feature film *Eat the Peach*, which he also co-wrote. Recent documentaries he has produced include *Charlie Bird: Loud and Clear* for RTÉ and 2022's *The Artist and the Wall of Death*. As official Irish Film Censor from 2003-2007, John was responsible for modernising what is now known as the Irish Film Classification Office.

[John Kelleher Media](#)

Podcast | Reflection Questions

You may find some of the following reflection questions useful. The suggested questions and activities below are a sample of how this podcast, featuring John Kelleher, can be incorporated into your classroom practice. In adapting this resource for your students, you should consider the age and stage of the students within your school context.



Before Listening

- What does the role of a film producer involve? Which aspects of the role do you think you would enjoy, and which aspects do you think you would not enjoy?



As you Listen

- John's favourite film is *Casablanca* because he believes it has a mixture of everything a film should offer. Think of your favourite films and consider what makes them so good. Do you watch some films several times, as John does? Give some examples.
- Being a film producer requires 'common sense' and 'people skills' according to John. What skills do you have that would help in the role of producer?
- As Ireland's Official Film Censor, John introduced the 15A and 16 age classifications. How important is it for films to have an age classification? What is the difference between censorship and classification?



After Listening

- The film 'pitch' to potential funders is essential for any film to be made. John refers to the legendary Hollywood '25 word pitch'. Create a short 'pitch' for a film idea you have, including elements such as genre, characters, plot, mood, music, actors and finance.
- Listen back to John's discussion of the skills and qualities needed to be a film producer. Write a job advertisement for a film producer, including a brief job description and listing key skills needed.

Podcast available on Junior Cycle Talks podcast channel

