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Vocabulary: Science 科学

Sci-fi movies tend to **capture children's imaginations** and have long been part of students' excited chats in the schoolyard. But now a scientific journal has urged at least one sci-fi movie to be shown in class by science teachers.

Scientific papers published in the American Journal of **Physics** (AJP) and in Classical and Quantum Gravity have seen merit in the way the movie **Interstellar** portrays **wormholes**.



Science has the power to capture children's imaginations

Dr David Jackson from AJP said publishing this paper "was a **no-brainer**". He added: "The physics has been very carefully reviewed by experts and found to be **accurate**. The publication will encourage physics teachers to show the film in their classes to get across ideas about **general relativity**".

In fact, one of the executive producers of *Interstellar* was Kip Thorne, a professor of **theoretical physics** at the California Institute of **Technology** (Caltech). For him, films such as *Interstellar*, *Contact* and *2001: A Space Odyssey* can inspire young people.

Blockbusters are improving when it comes to portraying scientific **theories**. An initiative by the US National Academy of Sciences has been putting **proper** scientists in touch with movie people to achieve a better result – which is vital in the internet age. *Interstellar*'s director Christopher Nolan says: "**Consumers** have a lot more immediate access to information. If you go and see a film about a particular subject, particularly a true life story, you can go home and look it up on Wikipedia and see if the basic things portrayed in the film are true or not. The same is true of science in the films".

Professional scientists may no longer **cringe** in their seats when they watch sci-fi movies. Today, getting the science wrong is no longer an option.

词汇表请参看答案与词汇部分

词汇表

sci-fi	科幻
to capture (someone's) imagination	激发某人的想象力
a scientific paper	科学文献
physics	物理学
interstellar	星际的
a wormhole (space)	时空虫洞
a no-brainer	显而易见的事
accurate	准确的
general relativity	广义相对论
technology	技术
a blockbuster	畅销的书、电影或电视
a theory	一种理论
proper	专业的，科班出身的
the consumer	消费者
to cringe	感到难堪

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What aspect of physics did the movie *Interstellar* show accurately, according to scientists?
2. What else could students learn more easily with the help of movies, according to Dr Jackson?
3. How has the US National Academy of Sciences helped movie makers to get the science right?
4. Why might it not be a good idea to pretend the science in a movie is correct?
5. Which verb in the article means 'to represent something in a particular way'?

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. It's warm and sunny. Going to the beach is _____.

a no-brainer	accurate	true	proper
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2. My chemistry teacher said I'm good at mixing things in the school lab but I have to learn more about the _____ behind it.

general relativity	no-brainer	theory	subject
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3. _____ are very demanding nowadays. If the quality is no good they go and shop elsewhere!

Executive producers	Teachers	Movie makers	Consumers
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4. I love _____ movies! But nothing beats a low-budget romantic comedy when you want a quiet afternoon at home.

accurate	blockbuster	true life stories	wormhole
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5. *ET* is a classic movie. It's _____ everybody's imagination.

arrested	trapped	took	captured
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What aspect of physics did the movie Interstellar show accurately, according to scientists?
Wormholes.
2. What else could students learn more easily with the help of movies, according to Dr Jackson?
The theory of general relativity.
3. How has the US National Academy of Sciences helped movie makers to get the science right?
It puts movie-makers in contact with real scientists.
4. Why might it not be a good idea to pretend the science in a movie is correct?
Because consumers can find out how accurate the film is by checking online.
5. Which verb in the article means 'to represent something in a particular way'?
To portray.

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. It's warm and sunny. Going to the beach is **a no-brainer**.
2. My chemistry teacher said I'm good at mixing things in the school lab but I have to learn more about the **theory** behind it.
3. **Consumers** are very demanding nowadays. If the quality is no good they go and shop elsewhere!
4. I love **blockbuster** movies! But nothing beats a low-budget romantic comedy when you want a quiet afternoon at home.
5. ET is a classic movie. It's **captured** everybody's imagination.