**Film Study Unit 1 What does it mean to be an American?**

<http://www.afi.com/100Years/movies.aspx>

100 years of movies American Film Institute

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Academy_Award-winning_films>

Academy Award winning movies

*Mr. Smith Goes to Washington* Academy Award Winner1940

5 wins and 11 nominations

Synopsis: When the idealistic young Jefferson Smith (James Stewart) winds up appointed to the United States Senate, he gains the mentorship of Senator Joseph Paine (Claude Rains). However, Paine isn't as noble as his reputation would indicate, and he becomes involved in a scheme to discredit Smith, who wants to build a boys' campsite where a more lucrative project could go. Determined to stand up against Paine and his corrupt peers, Smith takes his case to the Senate floor.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HX8aFpnWxPA>

12:07 minutes

*Forrest Gump* Academy Award Winner 1995

43 wins and 67 nominations

Synopsis: Slow-witted Forrest Gump (Tom Hanks) has never thought of himself as disadvantaged, and thanks to his supportive mother (Sally Field), he leads anything but a restricted life. Whether dominating on the gridiron as a college football star, fighting in Vietnam or captaining a shrimp boat, Forrest inspires people with his childlike optimism. But one person Forrest cares about most may be the most difficult to save -- his childhood love, the sweet but troubled Jenny (Robin Wright).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nFvASiMTDz0>

last scene and Jenny’s grave 5:19

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tTWln4uH7Gc>

feather ending :49

*Shawshank Redemption* Academy Award Nominated 1995 but beaten by Forrest Gump

16 wins and 39 nominations

Synopsis: Andy Dufresne (Tim Robbins) is sentenced to two consecutive life terms in prison for the murders of his wife and her lover and is sentenced to a tough prison. However, only Andy knows he didn't commit the crimes. While there, he forms a friendship with Red (Morgan Freeman), experiences brutality of prison life, adapts, helps the warden, etc., all in 19 years.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qzuM2XTnpSA>

opera scene 3:52

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RQSmfzfg2MY>

Andy is gone 3:11

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5y_O094dGDU>

How Andy escapes 3:09

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b66gLKLU8yU>

rain scene 3:34