Books vs movies, the age old debate

-Bhavi Lunawat

"*Books and movies are like apples and oranges. They both are fruit, but taste completely different.*" said Stephen King. *"What's better, books or movies?"* is not an easy question for most people to answer. Movies seem enticing but the world of books is something exquisite.

The best part about reading a book is how it lets your imagination run wild. The mental picture in everyone's head differs while reading a book and there is no right or wrong. However everything is decided for you in movies. This can be great if you want to relax but it also limits your imagination. Books are often vast and detailed and sometimes too confusing to keep up with, especially if you aren't a regular reader. Films are more concise and have a less complicated storyline making them more easy to follow. However films that are adapted from books often leave out or change vital details from books and this can lose the interest of some of the viewers.

Longer and more complicated storylines often lead to more plot twists and more details about the characters and their past, helping you understand them better. You also experience the story from the point of view of the characters and help you understand their thought process better. Books allow us to be a part of the story and understand the feelings and views of the characters. They help us improve our imaginative and analytical skills. However this can make it more time consuming than watching a movie and it is often not what one would want to do after a long day.

On the other hand, films can take you an entirely different world without you having to do any thinking of your own. The ability of a movie to show and the entire experience of watching one is unmatched and enthralling. It's the sound, lighting and visual effects that transforms the world around us and immerses us into the story in a different way than a book. Most people might not have the time or the patience to read a book and would much rather watch a movie which takes a considerably less amount of time. You can also watch a movie with friends or family making it a more fun experience. Many movies can be re-watched a number of times and still be just as enticing.

Reading a book is an entirely different but equally enjoyable experience. While it obviously takes more of your time and imagination, you often get truly lost in the world created in the book. Reading books also makes you more creative and improves your vocabulary. When you watch a movie it has to be from the point of view of the director, as he imagines the characters and the locations and how he wants to portray them. On the other hand, while reading a book you are free to create your own version of everything in your mind. There are no special effects in a book that might spoil the advance of the plot twist for you. Another advantage of reading a book is how easily portable it is and the fact that it requires no electricity or technology. It is a good way to disconnect from screens and technology, especially considering how important this is in the modern world where we spend so much of our time on phones, laptops, and computers and in front of screens.

Evidently, books and movies have their own advantages and disadvantages. Both of these are great sources of entertainment. Ultimately, the choice differs from person to person. The experience of getting

lost in a book and the feeling after watching an intriguing movie are incomparable. It comes down to what kind of entertainment you enjoy and simply whether you are a book or a movie person and that is for you to decide.