



SUGGESTED FILMS FOR OBSERVING LISTENING AND COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS (PROJECT EMPOWERING - LISTENING SKILLS)

Emotions, empathy and empathic listening: **EM**

Emotional stability: **ES**

Respect and authenticity: **RA**

Active listening: **AL**

Activation of Resources: **AR**

Dialogue Management: **DM**

TITLE	FILM DIRECTOR	YEAR	COUNTRY	OBSERVABLE SKILLS	PLOT SUMMARY
The Intouchables Original title: Les intouchables	Olivier Nakache, Éric Toledano	2011	France	EM RA AR	In Paris, the aristocratic and intellectual Philippe is a quadriplegic millionaire who is interviewing candidates for the position of his carer, with his red-haired secretary Magalie. Out of the blue, the rude African Driss cuts the line of candidates and brings a document from the Social Security and asks Philippe to sign it to prove that he is seeking a job position so he can receive his unemployment benefit. Philippe challenges Driss, offering him a trial period of one month to gain experience helping him. Then Driss can decide whether he would like to stay with him or not. Driss accepts the challenge and moves to the mansion, changing the boring life of Philippe and his employees.
The diving bell and the butterfly	Julian Schnabel	2007	France, USA	ES AR	The Diving Bell and the Butterfly is a memoir by journalist Jean-Dominique Bauby. It describes what his life is like after suffering a massive stroke that left him with locked-in

Original title: Le scaphandre et le papillon				DM	<p>syndrome. It also details what his life was like before the stroke.</p> <p>On December 8, 1995, Bauby, the editor-in-chief of French Elle magazine, suffered a stroke and lapsed into a coma. He awoke 20 days later, mentally aware of his surroundings, but physically paralyzed with what is known as locked-in syndrome, with the only exception of some movement in his head and eyes. His right eye had to be sewn up due to an irrigation problem. The entire book was written by Bauby blinking his left eyelid, which took ten months (four hours a day). The book chronicles everyday events for a person with locked-in syndrome. These events include playing at the beach with his family, getting a bath, and meeting visitors while in hospital at Berck-sur-Mer.</p>
Human: A Portrait of Our World	Yann Arthus-Bertrand	2015	France	EM RA AL	<p>One day, in Mali, Yann Arthus-Bertrand was the victim of a helicopter breakdown. While waiting for the pilot, he spent the entire day with a farmer who spoke to him, with great dignity and without complaint, of his daily life, his hopes, his fears and of his sole ambition: to feed his children. Yann was deeply marked by this encounter, by this man to whom he felt so close. This was the first of many such encounters, the outcome of which is Human. Human is a sensitive and loving portrait of mankind as a community, as a family – but most importantly as individuals. It tries to answer the universal and ancient question of who we are and what we aspire to. It may reveal the dark side of the human condition, but it also sheds light on the best of it, for we all carry inside of us this will to live together in harmony.</p>
Secrets & Lies	Mike Leigh	1996	Great Britain	EM 19' - 26'	Hortense, a well-educated black middle-class London optometrist, who was adopted as a baby, has chosen to

				54' - 1h13' AL 1h41' - 2h01'	trace her family history – only to discover that her birth mother, Cynthia is a working-class white woman with a dysfunctional family. That family will be forced to confront the personal issues they've been avoiding for years in this powerful, realistic drama.
Ghandi	Richard Attenborough	1982	United Kingdom, India	EM RA AL DM	Gandhi is a 1982 epic biographical film which dramatises the life of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, the leader of India's non-violent, non-cooperative independence movement against the United Kingdom's rule of the country during the 20th century. The film covers Gandhi's life from a defining moment in 1893, as he is thrown off a South African train for being in a whites-only compartment, and concludes with his assassination and funeral in 1948.
My Left Foot: The Story of Christy Brown	Jim Sheridan	1989	Ireland, United Kingdom	ES RA AR	My Left Foot is a 1989 Irish biographic drama film which tells the story of Christy Brown, an Irishman born with cerebral palsy, who could control only his left foot. Christy grew up in a poor, working-class family, and became a writer and artist. It is a partly fictional biography, adapted by Shane Connaughton and Jim Sheridan from the book of the same name by Christy Brown.
The man who planted trees Original title: L'homme qui plantait des arbres	Frédéric Back	1987	Canada	EM	The Man Who Planted Tree is a 1987 Canadian short animated film which is based on Jean Giono's novel. It tells the story of one shepherd's long and successful singlehanded effort to re-forest a desolate valley in the foothills of the Alps in Provence throughout the first half of the 20th century.
Schindler's list	Steven Spielberg	1993	United States	EM ES RA AR	Schindler's List is an epic historical period drama film. It is based on the novel Schindler's Ark by Australian novelist Thomas Keneally. The film relates a period in the life of Oskar Schindler, an ethnic German businessman, during which he saved the lives of more than a thousand mostly Polish-Jewish refugees from the

					Holocaust by employing them in his factories during World War II.
Inside out	Pete Docter, Ronnie del Carmen	2015	United States	EM ES AR	<p>Inside Out is a 3D computer-animated adventure comedy-drama film. The film is set in the mind of a happy, hockey-loving 11-year-old girl named Riley Andersen.</p> <p>Growing up can be a bumpy road, and it's no exception for Riley, who is uprooted from her Midwest life when her father starts a new job in San Francisco. Like all of us, Riley is guided by her emotions - Joy, Fear, Anger, Disgust and Sadness. The emotions live in Headquarters, the control center inside Riley's mind, where they help advise her through everyday life. As Riley and her emotions struggle to adjust to a new life in San Francisco, turmoil ensues in Headquarters. Although Joy, Riley's main and most important emotion, tries to keep things positive, the emotions conflict on how best to navigate a new city, house and school.</p>
Amélie Original title: Le Fabuleux Destin d'Amélie Poulain	Jean-Pierre Jeunet	2001	France Germany	EM AL AR	<p>Amélie is a young woman who had an unusual childhood; misdiagnosed with an unusual heart condition, Amélie didn't attend school with other children, but spent most of her time in her room, where she developed a keen imagination and an active fantasy life. Her mother Amandine died in a freak accident when Amélie was eight, and her father Raphael had limited contact with her, since his presence seemed to throw her heart into high gear. Despite all this, Amélie has grown into a healthy and beautiful young woman who works in a cafe and has a romantic nature. When Princess Diana dies in a car wreck in the summer of 1997, Amélie is reminded that life can be fleeting and she decides it's time for her to intervene in the lives of those around her, hoping to bring a bit of happiness to her</p>

					neighbors. When Amelie discovers a box of old treasures in the floorboards of her apartment, she decides to track down the owner and reunite him with his box of childhood memories. The gratitude of the owner and the happiness that Amelie sees on his face spurs her on to commit further random acts of kindness.
Rain man	Barry Levinson	1988	United States	EM RA	<p>Rain Man is a road comedy-drama film that tells the story of a selfish young wheeler-dealer, Charlie Babbitt. When Charlie comes to know that his estranged father has died, he returns home to Cincinnati, where he discovers that he has an autistic older brother named Raymond and that his father's \$3 million fortune is being left to the mental institution in which Raymond lives. Motivated by his father's money, Charlie checks Raymond out of the facility in order to return with him to Los Angeles. The brothers' cross-country trip ends up changing both their lives.</p> <p>Raymond is a "high-level" autistic. He can carry on conversations, stick to a schedule, compile baseball statistics, memorize dinner menus and become disturbed when anything upsets his routine. He can also count 46 spilled toothpicks in an instant and calculate square roots in a flash. But what he is thinking? There is a moment in "Rain Man" that crystalizes all the frustrations that Charlie feels about Raymond, a moment when he cries out, "I know there has to be somebody inside there!" But who? And where? "Rain Man" is so fascinating because it refuses to supply those questions with sentimental but unrealistic answers.</p>
Three colors: Blue Original title: Trois couleurs : Bleu	Krzysztof Kieślowski	1993	France, Poland, Switzerland	ES	Julie is haunted by her grief after living through a tragic auto wreck that claimed the life of her composer husband and young daughter. Her initial reaction is to withdraw from her relationships, lock herself in her apartment and suppress her



					pain. But avoiding human interactions on the bustling streets of Paris proves impossible, and she eventually meets up with Olivier, an old friend who harbors a secret love for her, and who could draw her back to reality.
Three colors: Red Original title: Trois couleurs : Rouge	Krzysztof Kieślowski	1994	France, Poland, Switzerland	EM RA	Part-time model Valentine meets a retired judge who lives in her neighborhood after she runs over his dog. At first the judge gifts Valentine with the dog, but her possessive boyfriend won't allow her to keep it. When she returns with the dog to the judge's house, she discovers him listening in on his neighbors' phone conversations. At first Valentine is outraged, but her debates with the judge over his behavior soon leads them to form a strange bond.
Dead poets Society	Peter Weir	1989	United States	AL EM AR 50' - 53'	Todd Anderson and his friends at Welton Academy can hardly believe how different life is since their new English professor, the flamboyant John Keating, has challenged them to "make your lives extraordinary! Inspired by Keating, the boys resurrect the Dead Poets Society--a secret club where, free from the constraints and expectations of school and parents, they let their passions run wild. As Keating turns the boys on to the great words of Byron, Shelley, and Keats, they discover not only the beauty of language, but the importance of making each moment count.
Bagdad café	Percy Adlon	1987	Germany	EM	German tourists Jasmin and her husband fight while driving across the desert. She storms out of the car and makes her way to the isolated truck stop, which is run by the tough-as-nails and short-tempered Brenda, whose own husband is soon to leave as well. Jasmin takes a room at the adjacent motel. Initially suspicious of the foreigner, Brenda eventually befriends Jasmin and allows her to work at the café. The café is visited by an

					assortment of colorful characters, including a strange ex-Hollywood set-painter and a glamorous tattoo artist. With an ability to quietly empathize with everyone she meets at the café, helped by a passion for cleaning and performing magic tricks, Jasmin gradually transforms the café and all the people in it.
Another woman	Woody Allen	1988	United States	AL EM AR	Marion is a woman who has learned to shield herself from her emotions. She rents an apartment to work undisturbed on her new book, but by some acoustic anomaly she can hear all that is said in the next apartment in which a psychiatrist holds his office. When she hears a young woman tell that she finds it harder and harder to bear her life, Marion starts to reflect on her own life. After a series of events she comes to understand how her unemotional attitude towards the people around her affected them and herself.
The lives of others Original title: Das Leben der Anderen	Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck	2006	Germany	EM	A man who has devoted his life to ferreting out "dangerous" characters is thrown into a quandary when he investigates a man who poses no threat in this drama. It's 1984, and Capt. Gerd Wiesler is an agent of the Stasi, the East German Secret Police. Weisler carefully and dispassionately investigates people who might be deemed some sort of threat to the state. Shortly after Weisler's former classmate, Lt. Col. Grubitz, invites him to a theatrical piece by celebrated East German playwright Georg Dreyman, Minister Bruno Hempf informs Weisler that he suspects Dreyman of political dissidence, and wonders if this renowned patriot is all that he seems to be. As it turns out, Hempf has something of an ulterior motive for trying to pin something on Dreyman: a deep-seated infatuation with Christa-Maria Sieland, Dreyman's girlfriend. Nevertheless, Grubitz, who

					<p>is anxious to further his career, appoints Weisler to spy on the gentleman with his help. Weisler plants listening devices in Dreyman's apartment and begins shadowing the writer. As Weisler monitors Dreyman's daily life, however (from a secret surveillance station in the gentleman's attic), he discovers the writer is one of the few East Germans who genuinely believes in his leaders. This changes over time, however, as Dreyman discovers that Christa-Maria is being blackmailed into a sexual relationship with Hempf, and one of Dreyman's friends, stage director Albert Jerska, is driven to suicide after himself being blackballed by the government. Dreyman's loyalty thus shifts away from the East German government, and he anonymously posts an anti-establishment piece in a major newspaper which rouses the fury of government officials. Meanwhile, Weisler becomes deeply emotionally drawn into the lives of Dreyman and Sieland, and becomes something of an anti-establishment figure himself, embracing freedom of thought and expression.</p>
<p>Children of a Lesser God</p>	Randa Haines	1986	United States	EM RA AL AR	<p>Sarah Norman is a troubled young deaf woman working as a janitor at a school for the deaf and hard of hearing in New England. An energetic new teacher, James Leeds arrives at the school and encourages her to set aside her insular life by learning how to speak aloud.</p> <p>As she already uses sign language, Sarah resists James's attempts to get her to talk but she is resistant because of a history of rape. Romantic interest develops between James and Sarah and they are soon living together, though their differences and mutual stubbornness eventually strains their relationship to the breaking point, as he continues to want her to talk, and she feels somewhat stifled in his presence.</p>



					<p>Sarah leaves James and goes to live with her estranged mother in a nearby city, reconciling with her in the process. However, she and James later find a way to resolve their differences.</p>
<p>Paris, Texas</p>	<p>Wim Wenders</p>	<p>1984</p>	<p>West Germany, France, United Kingdom</p>	<p>RA 1h55' - 2h16'</p>	<p>After an absence of 4 years, Travis Henderson suddenly reappears in a deserted part of south Texas. His brother Walt fetches him and he is soon reunited with his son Hunter. He can't really explain why he's been away or why he's suddenly reappeared. Walt has been raising Travis' son Hunter and it takes a while for the two of them to get reacquainted. They eventually set off together to find Jane, Travis' wife and Hunter's mother. She is found working in a peep show in Houston but a happy family reunion isn't in the cards.</p>
<p>Philadelphia</p>	<p>Jonathan Demme</p>	<p>1993</p>	<p>United States</p>	<p>EM AL RA</p>	<p>The story involves Andrew Beckett, a skillful lawyer in a big, old-line Philadelphia law firm. Beckett has AIDS. Visits to the clinic are part of his routine. Charles Wheeler, the senior partner hands Beckett a case involving the firm's most important client, and then, a few days later, another lawyer notices on Beckett's forehead the telltale lesions of the skin cancer associated with AIDS.</p> <p>Beckett is yanked off the case and informed he doesn't have a future with the firm. He suspects he's being fired for being sick.</p> <p>He's correct. Beckett is determined to take a stand, and sue the law firm. But his old firm is so powerful that no attorney in Philadelphia wants to take it on, until Beckett finally goes in desperation to Joe Miller, one of those lawyers who advertises on TV, promising to save your driver's license.</p> <p>Miller doesn't like homosexuals, but agrees to take the case, mostly for the money and exposure. And then the story falls into</p>

					the familiar patterns of a courtroom confrontation.
Life is beautiful Original title: La vita è bella	Roberto Benigni	1997	Italy	EM AR 1h41' - 1h44'	<p>In 1939 in Italy Guido Orefice is a young Jewish man who arrives to work in the city where his uncle Eliseo operates a restaurant. Guido is comical and sharp and falls in love with a girl named Dora. Later, he sees her again in the city where she is a teacher and set to be engaged to a rich but arrogant man. Guido sets up many "coincidental" incidents to show his interest in Dora. Finally Dora sees Guido's affection and the later merried and have a son, Giosuè and own a book store.</p> <p>When World War II breaks out, Guido, his uncle and Giosuè are seized on Giosuè's birthday. They and many other Jews are forced onto a train and taken to a concentration camp. After confronting a guard about her husband and son and being told there is no mistake, Dora volunteers to get on the train in order to be close to her family. However, as men and women are separated in the camp, Dora and Guido never see each other during the internment. Guido pulls off stunts, such as using the camp's loudspeaker to send messages—symbolic or literal—to Dora to assure her that he and their son are safe.</p> <p>In the camp, Guido hides their true situation from his son. Guido explains to Giosuè that the camp is a complicated game in which he must perform the tasks Guido gives him. Each of the tasks will earn them points and whoever gets to one thousand points first will win a tank. Giosuè is at times reluctant to go along with the game, but Guido convinces him each time to continue.</p> <p>Guido maintains this story right until the end when, in the chaos of shutting down the camp as the Allied forces approach, he tells his son to stay in a box until everybody has left, this being</p>

					the final competition before the tank is his. Guido goes to find Dora, but he is caught by a German soldier. An officer makes the decision to execute Guido, who is led off by the soldier. While he is walking to his death, Guido passes by Giosuè one last time, still in character and playing the game. He winks at Giosuè and Giosuè winks back as Guido is led away to be shot. The next morning, Giosuè emerges from the sweat-box, just as a U.S. Army unit led by a Sherman tank arrives and the camp is liberated. The prisoners travel to safety, accompanied by the Americans. Giosuè soon spots Dora in the procession leaving the camp and are reunited. Later, as a man, Giosuè realizes his father's story of sacrifice for his family.
A heart in winter Original title: Un coeur en hiver	Claude Sautet	1992	France	EM ES 1h17' - 1h22'	Violin restorer Stéphane works and plays squash with his longtime business partner Maxime. After Maxime, who is married, begins romancing concert violinist Camille, Stéphane is called in to do some urgent repairs on Camille's violin. Camille begins to fall for Stéphane, and reveals the truth to Maxime. Stéphane's cool reaction causes confusion for Camille, and she lashes out at him for denying his feelings.
All about my mother Original title: Todo sobre mi madre	Pedro Almodóvar	1999	Spain, France	EM RA AR	Manuela is a hard-working single mom who has raised her son Esteban by herself since the time he was born. On his 17th birthday they go to the theater and after the show, Esteban tries to get the main actress' autograph but is run down on the street and dies. Manuela is beside herself with grief and decides to return to Barcelona to tell the boy's transgender father Lola, about the death of the son he never knew he had. He is nowhere to be found but Manuela does find an old friend, Agrado and meets up with a pregnant nun, Rosa. Together they form a life and become fast friends - until tragedy strikes again.



<p>A stranger among us</p>	<p>Sidney Lumet</p>	<p>1992</p>	<p>United States</p>	<p>AL RA</p>	<p>In New York, Detective Emily Eden is a tough detective and daughter of a former cop. When her partner Nick is stabbed during an arrest of two drug dealers, Emily is assigned to a case of missing person, Yaakov Klausman, in a Hasidic community. However she discovers that Yaakov, who worked cutting diamonds, was murdered. Emily concludes that Yaakov knew the killer and asks the rebbe permission to work undercover in the community. The rebbe brings Emily to his home and his stepdaughter Leah and his stepson Ariel help her to know people in the community and understand their habits and rules. Emily works in a department store with Leah, Ariel and Yaakov's fiancée Mara, who was former drug addicted embraced by Yaakov and the rebbe, and her partner Levine gives support to her. Meanwhile Emily falls in unrequited love with Ariel. When the gangsters Tony Baldessari and Chris Baldessari threaten the group to sell protection to them, Emily believes she has resolved the case. But soon she has a discussion with Ariel and she concludes that the killer is another person from the community.</p>
<p>Close Encounters of the Third Kind</p>	<p>Steven Spielberg</p>	<p>1977</p>	<p>United States</p>	<p>AL RA AR</p>	<p>Cableman Roy Neary is one of several people who experienced a close encounter of the first kind, witnessing UFOs flying through the night sky. He is subsequently haunted by a mountain bike image in his head and becomes obsessed with discovering what it represents, putting severe strain on his marriage. Meanwhile, government agents around the world have a close encounter of the second kind, discovering physical evidence of otherworldly visitors in the form of military vehicles that went missing decades ago suddenly appearing in the middle of nowhere. Roy and the agents both follow the clues they have been given to reach a site where they will have a close encounter of the third</p>



					kind: contact.
Paths of Glory	Stanley Kubrick	1957	United States	AL	Loathsome General Mireau of the World War I French army accepts a mission for his men that he knows they can't accomplish but that might lead to his promotion. He passes their objective on to Colonel Dax, who is in charge of a large group of men at the front. Dax heroically leads the men to battle where many die; some remain in the trenches because their group captain realizes the attack is impossible. Mireau demands scapegoats are found for the failed mission, and three men are wrongly accused of cowardice. Dax vigorously defends them in a court martial, but the trail is fixed; the men are found guilty and executed by firing squad. An investigation is to be made into Mireau's actions, and Dax lambasts the generals on their immoral actions. Meanwhile, the men sit in a tavern where a young German woman is forced to sing for their rowdy number. They eventually quiet and are moved to softly sing with her. Dax receives orders that it is time for he and his men to return to the front.
Dances with wolves	Kevin Costner	1990	United States	EM RA AR	A Civil War soldier develops a relationship with a band of Lakota Indians. Attracted by the simplicity of their lifestyle, he chooses to leave his former life behind to be with them. Having observed him, they give the name Dances With Wolves. Soon he is a welcomed member of the tribe and falls in love with a white woman who has been raised in the tribe. Tragedy begins when Union soldiers arrive with designs on the land.
Dersu Uzala	Akira Kurosawa	1975	Soviet Union Japan	RA AR	Dersu Uzala is a film based on the 1923 memoir Dersu Uzala (which took its name from the native trapper) by Russian explorer Vladimir Arsenyev, about his exploration of the Sikhote-Alin region of the Russian Far East over the course of



					<p>multiple expeditions in the early 20th century.</p> <p>The film is almost entirely shot outdoors in the Russian Far East wilderness. It explores the theme of a native of the forests who is fully integrated into his environment, leading a style of life that will inevitably be destroyed by the advance of civilization. It is also about the growth of respect and deep friendship between two men of profoundly different backgrounds, and about the difficulty of coping with the loss of strength and ability that comes with old age.</p>
Witness	Peter Weir	1985	United States	RA	<p>An 8 year old Amish boy and his mother are traveling to Philadelphia, on their way to visit the mother's sister. While waiting at the train station, the young boy witnesses a brutal murder inside one of the bathroom stall. Police detective John Book is assigned to investigate the murder of the man, who was a undercover cop. Soon after, Book finds out that he's in great danger when the culprits know about his investigation and hides out in the Amish community. There, he learns the way of living among the Amish locals, which consists of non-violence and agriculture. Book soon starts a romance with the mother of the little boy, but their romance is forbidden by the Amish standards. But, it's not long before the bad guys find out Book's whereabouts.</p>