**Film Project 3TTO: Billy Elliot**

You are going to watch the film ‘Billy Elliot’.

Before, during and after the film you will be practising speaking and writing in preparation for The Anglia Advanced exam. You will be also using your listening skills and examining different themes.

Save all your work for your portfolio.

**Lesson 1:** (PowerPoint teaser).

Task 1. Talk in pairs about what you know about Billy Elliot. Write down key words.

Swap your thoughts and ideas with the pair behind you.

The film is set during the miner’s strike of 1984-85 in Great Britain.

Talk in pairs about what you know about coal mining and/ or strikes. Write down key words

Task 2. Key things for personal happiness.
Rank the following 10 sentences in order of importance.

1. A network of supportive family and friends.

2. A well paid job.

3. A job you enjoy.

4. Freedom of speech.

5. Health.

6. People accepting you for who you are.

7. Self-acceptance.

8. The right to choose your own future.

9. A good school report.

10. Physical attractiveness

Task 3: Discussion topic.

Work in pairs; you must both choose a different statement and be able to talk about it for 2-3 minutes. You have 8 minutes to think about your topic.

1. Boys play football and girls dance. Do you agree?

2. Growing up in poverty has a huge influence on a person. Do you agree?

3. Music in a film is very important. Do you agree?

4. The right for workers to strike should be banned by law. Do you agree?

5. You should always follow your dreams even if it hurts other people. Do you agree?

6. More women should be involved in politics. Agree?

**Lesson 2, 3 & 4.** (Watching the film).

The following songs are used in the film:-

**T Rex** Cosmic Dancer, Get it on, Children of the Revolution, I love to boogie, Ride a white swan.

**The Clash** London calling

**The Jam** Town called Malice.

Listen to the songs during the film and explain **what** they are about and in **which scenes** they were used. **Why** do you think these songs were chosen for these scenes?

**Lesson 5:**

Choose one of the following topics and write an essay. (200-250 words).

1. **Conflict** is a major theme in the film. Explain the internal conflicts within Billy and

within his father. What external conflict was taking place in the community and how did

this affect these two characters?

2. **Stereotyping** is also a theme. What is this and how does it affect some of the characters?

3. Explain the stark contrast between Billy’s home town and the world of the Royal Ballet in London.

**Lesson 6:**

During the Anglia exam you will have to write both an informal letter (or e-mail) and a formal letter.

Task 1. (Use your Anglia booklet to help you).

Write an e-mail from Billy to his brother Tony telling him about his first week in London. (Include information about his first experiences in the city and at school). (100-150 words).

Task 2: Write Billy’s application letter to The Royal Ballet.

Include the following things:

Who you are, age, dancing experience, why you want to join the school?

Use the name and address below. (150-200 words not including addresses).

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**Kevin O’Hare**