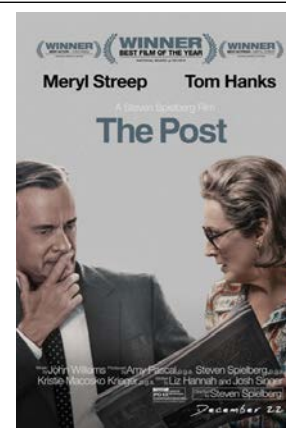


Movies & Languages 2018-2019

The Post

About the movie (subtitled version)

DIRECTOR	S. Spielberg
YEAR/COUNTRY	2017 / USA
GENRE	Biography, History
ACTORS	M. Streep, T. Hanks, S. Paulson, B. Odenkirk, T. Letts



PLOT

When American military analyst, Daniel Ellsberg, realizes the depths of the US government's deception about the futility of the Vietnam War, he takes action by copying top-secret documents that would later become the Pentagon Papers. Later, Washington Post owner, Kay Graham, is still adjusting to taking over her late husband's business when editor Ben Bradlee discovers the New York Times has scooped them with an explosive article on those papers. Determined to compete, Post journalists find Ellsberg himself and a complete copy of those papers. However, the Post's plans to publish their findings are put in jeopardy with a Federal restraining order that could them all indicted for Contempt. Now, Kay Graham must decide whether to back down for the safety of her newspaper or publish and fight for Freedom of the Press. In doing so, Graham and her staff join a fight that would have America's democratic ideals in the balance.

The film was nominated for Best Picture and Best Actress at the 90th Academy Awards.

LANGUAGE

Standard American English.

GRAMMAR

Reported Speech

We often tell people what other people have said. This is called reported or indirect speech. We very rarely try to report the exact words that someone actually says. Usually we give the general meaning with a summary.

When the verb tense changes it "moves back" in time:

'I work for IBM': She said she worked for IBM.

'I'm working for IBM': She said was working for IBM.

'I've worked for IBM': She said she had worked for IBM.

'I've been working for IBM': She said she had been working for IBM.

'I worked for IBM': She said she had worked for IBM.

'I had worked for IBM': She said she had worked for IBM.

'I'm going to work for IBM': She said she was going to work for IBM.

'I can/will/may work for IBM': She said she could/would/might work for IBM.

There is no change for must, might, could, should, would.

Note well that if the actual words were in the past simple (worked), the reported speech can change or stay the same.

Note well that there is no change for the past perfect (had worked).

VOCABULARY

To scoop: to become first to discover something	A long hair: a liberal politically who might be radical
Rand Corporation: a non policy think-tank organization financed by the U.S.A	An issue: a problem that needs to be solved
Burned her bridges: she left no alternatives	IPO: Initial Public Offering
To balk: to wait or stop to do something	I don't give a rat's ass: I don't really care
To plunder: to steal goods from a place in time of war or conflict	Sucking hind tit: to be last in line to get something
Bleed our margins: cut our profits	Wishy-washy: ideas that are not clearly defined
Injunction: when a court orders a party to perform or to desist from a particular act	At loggerheads: in violent dispute or disagreement with someone
Pull a punch: holding back from reacting as hard as you can	Contempt: intentional disobedience of or disdain for a known order of a court or legislative body
Amicus curiae: friend of the court, a person who is not party to the law suit but who is permitted, upon petition, to submit information or arguments for the court's consideration	Domino theory: the idea that if one country in a region falls to the communists, the other neighboring countries will follow