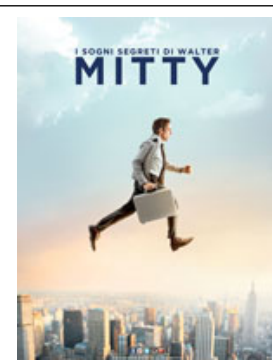


Movies & Languages 2014-2015

The Secret Life of Walter Mitty



About the movie (subtitled version)

DIRECTOR	Ben Stiller
YEAR / COUNTRY	2013 / USA
GENRE	Comedy
ACTORS	Ben Stiller, Kristen Wiig, Shirley MacLaine, Sean Penn

PLOT

Walter Mitty is a negative assets sector manager for Life magazine. He is an escapist, constantly daydreaming into an imaginary world and has a crush on the recently hired Cheryl Melhoff but is too shy to ask her out so decides to contact her via online dating. The magazine is preparing to release its final printed edition and the loathsome manager of transition Ted Hendricks is preparing an inevitable downsizing. Walter has been the liaison between the magazine and the mysterious independent photographer Sean O'Connell who recently sent him a package of negatives and a wallet as a gift. He later learns that there is a film negative missing however, Walter can not seem to locate it. Walter has no means of contacting Sean and finds a clue that he might be in Greenland. He then decides to travel to Greenland to track down Sean. This is the beginning of an unbelievable adventure!

LANGUAGE

Standard American English with some slang.

GRAMMAR

Don't be confused by *either / or* and *neither / nor*:

- *Either Serena or Stephen is here*
Both parts are singular, so use a singular verb.
- *Neither the boys nor the girls are here*
Both parts are plural, so use a plural verb.
- *Neither the boys nor their mother is here*
One part is plural and one part is singular. The singular part comes right before the verb, so use a singular verb.
- *Neither the mother nor her sons are here*
One part is plural and one part is singular. The plural part comes right before the verb, so use a plural verb.

Wrong:

Either Leslie or Katie are dancing the part of Aurora in the ballet.

Right:

Either Leslie or Katie is dancing the part of Aurora in the ballet.

Don't be confused by nouns that look plural but are actually singular:

The news is bad.

Measles is contagious.

VOCABULARY

To acquire: to come into possession or ownership of	Pass out: to faint
Awesome: causing or inducing awe; inspiring an overwhelming feeling of reverence, admiration, or fear	Marching orders: if you give someone their marching orders you ask that person to leave a place or a job (walking papers)
Backpacking: the outdoor recreation of carrying gear on one's back, while hiking for more than a day. It is often, but not always, an extended journey	To mount: to place or fix on or in the appropriate support or setting for display or study, for example: mount photographs in an album
Cheesy: inferior or cheap (slang)	Motto: a sentence, phrase, or word expressing the spirit or purpose of a person or organization
Contact sheet: a contact print, usually of all frames from a developed roll of negative print film, used as a proof print	To nestle: to settle snugly and comfortably
Daydreamer: one who indulges in reverie while awake	Noteworthy: interesting, significant, or unusual.
To draw closer: to move towards; approaching a destination	Quintessence: the most perfect example of a quality or class (epitome)
Glitch: a defect or malfunction in a machine or plan	Scene: one's particular preference, activity (slang)
Home-slice: a good friend or buddy, someone who seems like a little slice of home	Sesame street: an educational television program for preschool children that began in the late 1960's in America
Knick-knacks: small, worthless objects, especially ornaments for the home	Scatter: to throw loosely about; to separate and drive off in various directions; disperse
Pal: a friend, buddy, mate	Thumb: the short, thick, inner digit of the human hand next to the forefinger
Pastry: a sweet, baked food made of dough	Tough and tender: the basic conflict of modern humanity – <i>tough</i> versus <i>tender</i>
Reluctant: unwilling; disinclined	Zone out: to be inattentive, hazily preoccupied