

Movies & Languages 2014-2015

The Counselor



About the movie (subtitled version)

DIRECTOR	Ridley Scott
YEAR / COUNTRY	2013 / USA, UK
GENRE	Drama
ACTORS	Michael Fassbender, Penelope Cruz, Cameron Diaz, Brad Pitt

PLOT

A rich and successful lawyer, the Counselor, is about to get married to his fiancée but soon becomes tangled in a complex drug plot with a middle-man known as Westray. The plan ends up taking a horrible twist and he must protect himself and his soon to be bride as the truth of the drug business is uncovered and targets are eliminated.

LANGUAGE

American English and Spanish with some slang. Idiomatic and profane language often heard.

GRAMMAR

Split infinitives

An infinitive is a verb with the word *to* in front of it. Splitting an infinitive means putting one or more words between *to* and the verb.

Infinitive	Non – split infinitive	Split infinitive
to run	to run quickly	to quickly run
to swim	to swim eagerly	to eagerly swim
to jump	to jump determinedly	to determinedly jump

Split the infinitives when you want to emphasize the word or words in between.

Right:

I want you to study the material for the test.

More Emphasis:

I want you to thoroughly study the material for the test.

When you split an infinitive, be careful not to put too many words between *to* and the verb.

Confusing:

I want you to thoroughly and deliberately, without cutting any corners or making any excuses, study for the test.

Better:

I want you to thoroughly and deliberately study for the test without cutting any corners or making any excuses.

VOCABULARY

Arson: the crime of intentionally and maliciously setting fire to buildings, land areas, vehicles or other property with the intent to cause damage	Frailty: physical weakness; the quality or state of being frail; weakness of character that causes a person to do things that are morally wrong
Absolution: the act of absolving; a freeing from blame or guilt	To tease: to make fun of (someone) playfully or taunt annoyingly

To embark: to begin a journey especially on a ship or airplane	Ounce: unit of mass. 1 ounce = 28.3495231 grams
A flaw: a feature that mars the perfection of something; a defect	Lavish: sumptuously rich, elaborate or luxurious.
Dandy: (adj.) excellent, better than expected	Wretch: an unfortunate or unhappy person
To follow: to go after in pursuit	To rattle one's cage: aggravate, exasperate, annoy
To miss: to fail to hit or strike	Penitentiary: prison; correctional facility
Noose: a loop with a running knot as in a snare, lasso, or hangman's halter, that tightens as the rope is pulled	Tidy up: bathe or cleanse
Murky: cloudy	Scared: afraid or fearful
Slammer: slang used by gangsters meaning jail	Cartel: an agreement between competing firms to control prices or exclude entry of a new competitor in a market
Query: a form of questioning, in a line of inquiry	Famished: extremely hungry