

Foreign Language Film Festival 2009-2010

The Terminal

About the movie (subtitled version)

DIRECTOR	Steven Spielberg
YEAR / COUNTRY	2004 U.S.A
GENRE	Comedy-drama
ACTORS	Tom Hanks, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Stanley Tucci



PLOT

The Terminal is about a man trapped in a terminal at JFK International Airport when he is denied entry into the United States due to a revolution in his home country that invalidates his passport as the U.S.A no longer recognizes his country (Kraozhia). In short he is stranded and stateless.

Due to his poor English he can't understand what is happening, but is explained the situation through news broadcasts and the immigration services. Over the next nine months, Viktor Navorski (Hanks) is forced to live in the terminal building, unable to set foot in the U.S.A. or go home.

Viktor becomes friends with the staff at the terminal and is able to survive with his skills, intelligence and basic humanity, but he always remains under the watchful eyes of the Immigration and Customs Officer Frank Dixon.

The story basically takes off from there. Enjoy yourselves.

LANGUAGE

English, French, Russian, Bulgarian, some Spanish.

Viktor speaks English in the simple present most of the time, no matter its incorrectness, but what he means to say is usually clear.

GRAMMAR

Comparatives and Superlatives

-We use the comparative form of an adjective to compare two separate things.

Example:

Model C400 is **more powerful than** model C200.

Model C200 is **less powerful than** model C400.

-We use the superlative form of an adjective to say that one thing in a group has more or less of a quality than all the others.

Example:

The most powerful model we make is the C600. - **The least powerful** model we make is the C200.

Examples: The form usually depends on the number of syllables and the spelling

cheap - cheaper - the cheapest

hot - hotter - the hottest

nice - nicer - the nicest

easy - easier - the easiest

big - bigger - the biggest

modern - more/less modern - the most/least modern

risky - riskier - the riskiest

expensive - more/less expensive - the most/least expensive

Irregular Forms

good - better - the best

bad - worse - the worst

far - farther/further - the farthest/furthest

VOCABULARY

Watch it!: be careful	Trash: useless things that are thrown away
To retire: to conclude one's working life, pension	Tarmac: the runway of an airport
Catch and release: to release fish you catch if they are too small to keep	Quarter: 25 cent coin in U.S. currency
Dig in deep: prepare for a long struggle	Make a deal: reach an agreement
Wild stallion: a wild horse	Trekkie: fan of Star Trek
What makes her knees weak: what she is attracted to	To cheat on a person: to betray a person
Uncle Sam: U.S. government	Crowded: too many people
Nut job: crazy	Big pool: gambling ring
Forged documents: false documents	Revoked visa: visa considered invalid
To get it: understand	Crack in the system: defect in an organization
To sort out: solve a problem	Red carpet: first class
To beg: to plead	Goat: animal with horns found on farms or in the mountains
Twilight Zone: situation of mystery and uncertainty	