Foreign Language Film Festival 2007-2008

Chicken Run
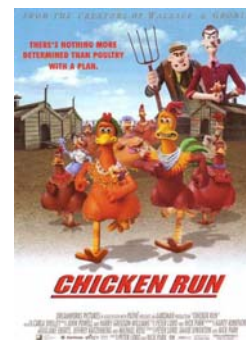
About the movie (subtitled version)

DIRECTOR	Peter Lord, Nick Park
YEAR / COUNTRY	2000 / Great Britain
GENRE	Animation/ Comedy/ Escape Drama
ACTORS	Voices: Julia Sawalha, Mel Gibson, Miranda Richardson

PLOT

This film is a homage to the World War II prison films from the 1950s and 1960s and is set in a POW camp-like chicken farm in England. The film brings to mind "Animal Farm" where the farm animals consistent in their fight for survival, collectively devise a triumphant plan of escape from the humans who control their ill fate. In this case, chickens run away from being killed and made into pies. Ginger (the starring hen) attempts to lead the chickens to safety and is then blessed with the arrival of Rocky (the starring rooster voiced by Mel Gibson) who takes over and trains the chickens for their final escape demonstrating how hard work, strong beliefs and perseverance result in a triumphant ending against the evils of existence.

LANGUAGE

British, Scottish and American accents combined with idiomatic uses of English from the various regions of the United Kingdom make this film challenging to follow and learn from.

VOCABULARY

To deal with: to take action	To have a deal: to respect an agreement
Solitary confinement: a forced seclusion	Perseverance: to persist
To be grounded: to restrict to a certain place as punishment	To flap: to wave wings up and down
To lay eggs: to produce eggs	It's all in your head: you are imagining things
On a run: an escape from	To lighten up: to calm down
To keep it down: to become silent	To kick back a bit: to relax
To try and lay low: an attempt to hide from	To sabotage: a treacherous action to hinder an endeavour
To turn you in: to report to authorities	A bunk: a small bed
They are on to me: I've been discovered	To ramble on: to digress at length
To go for it: to excel	To keep it up: to continue
To be plucked: to have feathers pulled out	To spread the word: to tell the news to everyone