



EXQUISITELY

50 YEARS OF BOND VILLAINS

EVIL



**CLASSROOM
CONNECTIONS**



YOUR CURRICULUM: SHAKEN AND STIRRED!

Quick...when you think “spy” what pops into your mind? Most people would answer “Bond...James Bond.” For over a half a century and counting Bond has been and remains the world’s most famous secret agent. And that’s why the International Spy Museum chose to focus on 007 in its newest exhibition, Exquisitely Evil: 50 Years of Bond Villains. But how does this relate to your classroom? How can you use this exhibition to support your curriculum standards? Here are some suggestions for how to integrate the content of the exhibition into your classroom.

If you find that your students are unfamiliar with the Bond films or want to refresh their memory, show them an introduction [video](#) that answers the question: Why Bond?

MISSION: 001

English Language Arts: Writing Spy Fiction

Ian Fleming created James Bond and all his villains. He wrote the first novel, *Casino Royale*, in 1953 which was followed by thirteen more novels and nine short stories over the course of thirteen years. From his custom-made brand of cigarettes to his choice in women and cars, we know that there are several characteristics of James Bond that Fleming based on himself.



Ian Fleming



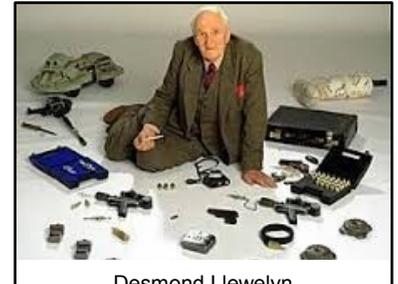
Sean Connery as
James Bond

Give your students the opportunity to write their own spy novel b Bond as inspiration. To begin, students can outline what characteristics in themselves would translate well to their main character, the spy. What other qualities could the protagonist possess that are important to the story? Does their character have an Achilles heel? The same can be done for the villains. Take a close look at Bond’s villains. How are they symbolic of real fears and threats? From the super powers and the threat of nuclear catastrophe to the drug lords, the villains are representative of the threats and fears that the world has faced over the years. Students can develop a villain that is symbolic of a real threat (either past or present) and then use fiction to play out these fears.

MISSION: 002

STEM: Q Branch and the Science of Bond

A briefcase that can shoot poison gas, a car that can become invisible and rocket-firing cigarettes; these are the gadgets that students wished they owned! Have students choose one gadget featured in the exhibition or in any of the Bond films. What is the science behind it? Is there a real gadget that utilizes the same science and achieves a similar goal? Is it even possible?



Desmond Llewelyn
AKA "Q"

Here's one example: In *Diamonds are Forever* Bond is sent by M to break up a diamond-smuggling operation. Posing as Peter Franks, Bond's fingerprints are lifted by Tiffany Case and identified as the real Franks. Later we see Bond peeling off a thin tape-like adhesive from his finger pads. Is this really possible? Can you fake someone else's fingerprints? Take a look at this [video](#) and to hear what a real spy has to say:

RESOURCE: *The Science of James Bond* by Lois H. Gresh and Robert Weinberg (2006).

MISSION: 003

History: Bond Villains Symbolic of Real Fears and Threats

For 50 years, James Bond has been the most recognized spy who ever lived...well at least on the silver screen. But while Bond has remained largely the same as a character, the villains have changed over time. Most of the villains and their diabolic plots are symbolic of real world fears and threats that existed during the production of the film. Your students can research the real world threats and fears at a particular time in history and you can use the Bond Villain as your "hook." For example:



Dr. Julius No
Dr. No

- Dr. No from the film, *Dr. No* (October 1962)
Villain Plot: Sabotage American missile tests by "toppling," using directed radio w missile's guidance system and send it off course.
Historic Event: October 1962 - Cuban Missile Crisis

You can also pose the following questions to your students regarding this topic:

- How well do Bond villains compare to the most significant national security threats, from the 1960s until today? How do the fictional threats measure up to the real threats of the time period?
- If you were making the next Bond film, what national fear would you harness to make a new villain?

RESOURCE: [Bond villains and plots chart](#)

MISSION: 004

Government/Civics: What Do You Think? Bond and Real Espionage

Issue your students the following polling questions. Tally their answers and provide them with the facts regarding the issues raised by the films. A debate or further discussion of these questions could take place, with students researching the questions to create an argument.

POLLING QUESTIONS:

- 1) Bond has “double 0” status, meaning he has a “license to kill.” Do you think that in the real world of espionage, American intelligence officers have the same status?
 - Yes
 - No
 - I don't know



The Facts:

The “double 0” status is fictional. However, in 1976 President Gerald Ford issued Executive Order (number 11905) banning targeted killings by American intelligence officers. Recently CIA drone attacks authorized by the President have raised concerns about assassinations by the Intelligence Community. Some believe that these are legal attacks on military targets. Others believe that they are assassinations. As an Executive Order—not a law—the prohibition on assassination can be changed at the will of the President.

- 2) Physical and psychological intimidation is depicted in the Bond films. Do you think that it is used as widely in the real world of espionage?
 - Yes
 - No
 - I don't know

The Facts:

No, but a lot of people have the perception that torture and hostile interrogations are used more widely than they actually are. Even members of congress have cited television shows such as "24" to defend the use of torture. Hostile interrogations usually involve some degree of intimidation. However, since January 22nd 2009, when President Obama issued Executive Order #13491, American intelligence interrogations have been conducted in accordance with the Army's field manual which prohibits "acts of physical or mental torture." Unfortunately, as the field manual recognizes, there are no sharp dividing lines between permissible and impermissible interrogation techniques. In fighting terrorism, the United States has done things that many people believe to be torture. Many intelligence agencies around the world practice torture and others—even from democratic governments—have done so in recent decades.

- 3) Bond is an intelligence officer who often breaks the rules. Do you think that someone with his qualities would be an asset to the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)?
- Yes
 - No
 - I don't know

The Facts:

Yes and No. The CIA states on their website that operations officers must be able to deal with ambiguity and "unstructured situations" and possess "street sense and the ability to cope with stress." At the same time, they must have "professional discipline" and obey American laws. They have license to break foreign laws as necessary to carry out their mission, but just because they are allowed to break laws, does not mean they should commit mayhem like Bond does. The most successful spy missions are best accomplished secretly and quietly.

MISSION: 005

Current Events: Raoul Silva and Cyber Terrorism

In the most recent installment in the Bond films is *Skyfall* (2012), Raoul Silva is a villain for the 21st century. Bond's newest adversary is a technical mastermind, hacking MI6 computers in a scheme to avenge his betrayal by M. Silva is adept at both digital and real-world deception, enticing 007 into multiple lethal traps as he puts in motion his deadly plan. Silva hacks into MI6's computer system to expose agents around the world, compromising state secrets and causing Parliament to question M's ability to lead the service.



Raoul Silva, *Skyfall*

Each day cyber-attacks are taking place around the world. Have students research an attack that has taken place within the past 3 years and have them report on how these attacks impact national security.

MISSION: 006

Psychology/Social Studies: The Psyche of the Villain

What makes a villain a villain? What characteristics does a villain possess? Have your students develop a profile of two real life “villains,” listing the characteristics and reasons why they believe the individuals they chose should be considered as villains. Then have students watch this video (link below) on the Spy Museum’s You Tube Channel: The Psychology of Villainy with experts who tell you exactly how Bond villains demonstrate classic criminal or otherwise aberrant psychological behavior based on their experiences with real offenders: Dr. David L. Charney, who was the psychiatrist for notorious spy Robert Hanssen and interviewed him extensively in prison; and Dr. Stanton Samenow, a noted forensic scientist and author of *The Criminal Personality* and *Inside the Criminal Mind*. Dr. Samenow was the prosecution’s mental health witness regarding the younger DC sniper, Lee Boyd Malvo.



Ernst Stavro Blofeld,
You Only Live Twice

Why would someone betray their country like Robert Hanssen or GoldenEye’s Alec Trevelyan? How realistic is the Stockholm syndrome suffered by Elektra

King in The World Is Not Enough? What makes people consider crime as a way of life? In this extraordinary conversation, you’ll learn exactly how maudlin sentimentality—Blofeld’s love for his cat—can coexist with chilling brutality.



Robert Hanssen
Former FBI Agent



Alec Trevelyan
GoldenEye

RESOURCE: [The Psychology of Villainy](#)

GENERAL RESOURCES ON BOND

VIDEOS

- Real spies speak about their own [“Bond moment” on the Spy YouTube Channel](#)

BOOKS

- Questions are Forever: James Bond and Philosophy by James B. South and Jacob M. Held
- License to Thrill: A Cultural History of the James Bond Films by James Chapman
- The Science of James Bond by Lois H. Gresh and Robert Weinberg
- James Bond in the 21st Century: Why We Still Need 007 by Glen Yeffeth
- License to Thrill: A Cultural History of the James *Bond Films* by James Chapman