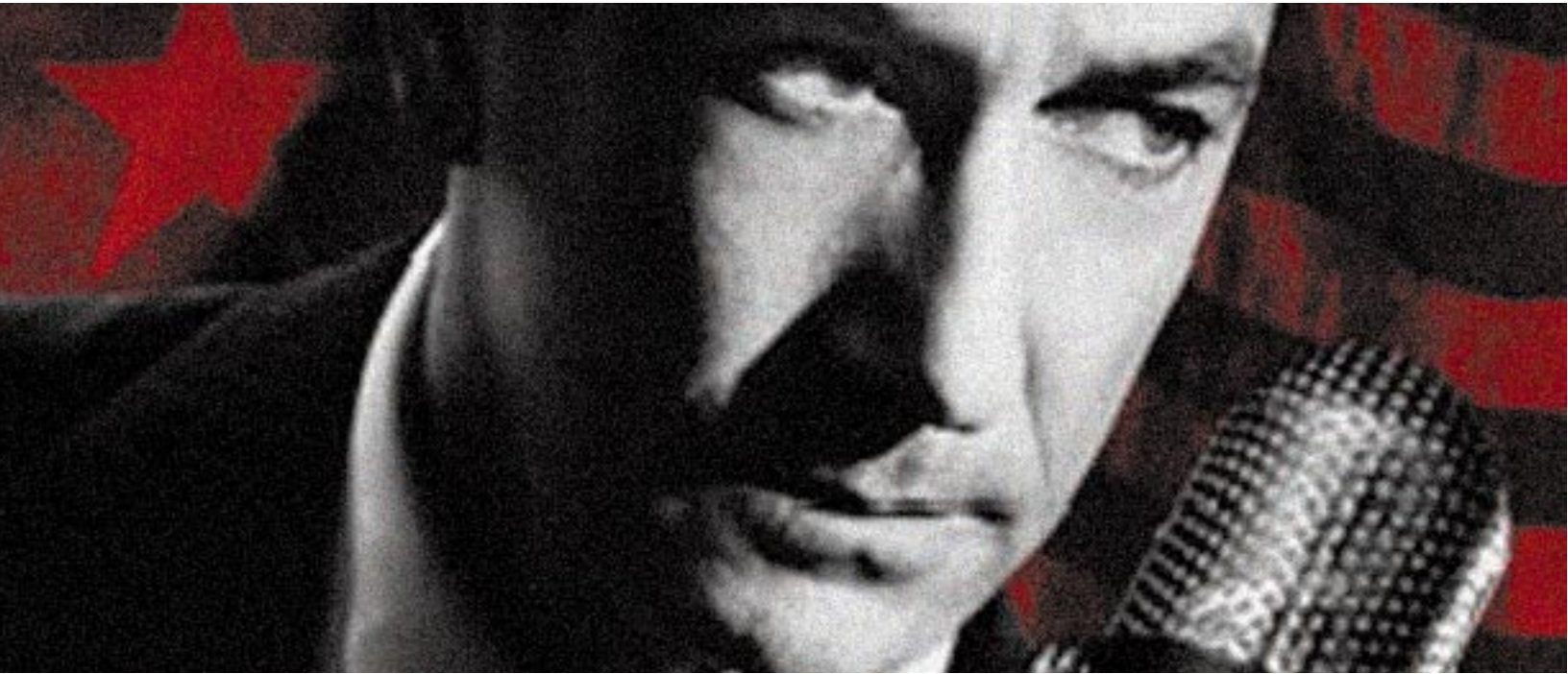


good night, and good luck.



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Overview to materials:

When George Clooney and Grant Heslov decided to tell the story of Edward R. Murrow and the McCarthy era, it's doubtful their main concern was how it would play in the classroom. But their movie "Good Night, and Good Luck." lends itself to use with students for a variety of purposes and on many levels.

Included are links to websites that could be beneficial both before and after viewing the movie. By reading information about Sen. Joseph McCarthy and his fight against Communism, students could gain more insight into history than the movie's three short sentences scrolling across the screen near the beginning provide. More background could help them put the era into perspective. Other sites include a closer look at the people involved. And still other sites focus on equipment, music and additional aspects of the era's culture.

Study questions help guide students' viewing and help them pick up on the sometimes subtle clues the movie presents. They can help students note foreshadowing and nuances and allow them to appreciate the significance of events.

Questions can be used before or after viewing the movie, as written work or class discussions. These match well with the test to use after viewing. The test includes matching, short answer and a selection of essay questions. Like the study questions, they come with a teacher's guide. Tests and other teacher materials can be ordered free online.

Finally, the lesson plans offer a range of approaches for different levels and different interests. Some work well as group projects. From a focus on the broadcasting industry to ethical dilemmas television journalists face, these allow for longer units or shorter ones, depending on the classroom situation. All are tied to the National Council of Teachers of English/International Reading Association Standards or to the thematic curriculum standards from the National Council for the Social Studies.

This is an opportunity to use broadcast as a genre to learn about a range of topics. Students will enjoy the movie, but they also will be able to expand their understanding through discussion, further reading, writing and activities. As Murrow said, "Good night, and good luck."

we will not walk in fear of one another