FILM -MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET

Senior Cycle Students

These worksheets are probably best suited to an older class group based on the reading age level. Links can be made to belief, faith, search for meaning, blocks to the search for meaning e.g. materialism
You can watch the film on Disney+

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Miracle on 34th Street – Worksheet



Name: _____ **Class:** _____

Activity 1

Key Themes and Definitions

Read through the themes and key definitions below. While you are watching the film make your own notes about the themes which you can use in our class discussion and groupwork afterwards.

1. The Power of Having Faith

Faith: Believing in something even when you cannot prove it or see it directly.

Theme meaning: The film shows how believing—whether in people, possibilities, or ideas—can give hope, change attitudes, and open the door to positive outcomes.

My notes

2. The Importance of Kindness and Goodwill

Kindness: Treating others with care, compassion, and respect.

Goodwill: The desire to do good for others, often without expecting anything in return.

Theme meaning: The story highlights how acts of kindness can influence others, build community, and make the world feel more hopeful.

My notes

3. Challenging Materialism

Materialism: The belief that having money and possessions is the most important thing in life.

Theme meaning: The film encourages audiences to think beyond presents and shopping, reminding them that relationships, generosity, and belief hold deeper value than material goods.

My notes

Worksheet

Part 1 – Quick Summary

Write 2–3 sentences summarising what you think the film is about.

Part 2 – Exploring the Themes Group Work, in Pairs and Individually - (THINK, PAIR, SHARE)

Theme 1 - The Power of Having Faith

a. Discussion Questions – each person in the group should write down their ideas and then add the ideas that they hear from their group.

Why do some characters struggle to believe in Kris Kringle?

What moments in the film challenge the audience to consider what they believe?

How does Susan's understanding of "faith" change from the beginning to the end?

b. Activity: Belief vs. Evidence

List three things in the film that require faith, and three things that rely on evidence.

Requires Faith	Based on Evidence
1 2 3	1 2 3

Theme 2. The Importance of Kindness and Goodwill

a. Character Analysis – Pair Work – with a partner complete the following questions and write down your answers.

Choose one character who shows kindness or goodwill.

The character that we think shows kindness or good will is:

Explain what they did, why it mattered and how it influenced others

What they did:
Why it mattered:
How it influenced others:

b. Individual Work

Write about a time when someone showed you kindness—or when you showed kindness to someone else. How did it make you feel?

Theme 3. Challenging Materialism

a. Reflective Questions – answer the following questions in your groups.

How does the film critique the commercialisation of Christmas?

What message does Kris Kringle give about what truly matters during the holidays?

How do the children in the film respond to the "real" meaning of Christmas compared to the adults?

Part 3 – Quotes to Analyse – Paired Work

Choose one quote, discuss it with your partner and write a short paragraph explaining what it means and how it relates to one of the themes.

“Faith is believing in things when common sense tells you not to.”

“Christmas isn’t just a day, it’s a frame of mind.”

“If you can’t accept anything on faith, then you’re doomed to a life dominated by doubt.”

Write your analysis below:

Part 4 – Final Reflection – Individual Work

Which theme do you think is most important in the film, and why?

Write 5–7 sentences explaining your perspective.