Talking about Characters

When you read a story or watch a film there is often a goody and a baddy. The best baddies are not pure unpleasantness. They often have something redeeming about them. That’s what makes them so appealing.

Take Cristiano Ronaldo. (And I’m sorry to use him again, but he is the gift that keeps on giving.) Last night he scored two exquisite goals. A back heel and a header. He is one of the best footballers to walk this planet in history. But he is considered by some to be a bad sport.

Watch this to see how he measured up last night:
http://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/football/36535365. Also, read his remarks after the Portugal-Iceland draw.

Now get into two groups. One group needs to list the good things about Ronaldo. The other group, the bad things. Have an argument about if CR7 is good or bad. Then vote to see how your class judges him.

Some people might think Ronaldo is merely human. A bit one thing, a bit of another.

Can you say the same for the great goodies and baddies of the books and films you love? Who are your favourite good and bad characters?

Talk about them. But in a different way. Ask yourselves what is bad about your goodies? What is good about your baddies?
Just as an example:
James Bond is a goody. Or is he? What is bad about him?
Miss Trunchbull is a baddy. Or is she? Is there anything good about her?

This is how great and memorable characters are made. They are contradictory. You love them and hate them at the same time.