

11009

ERA 7–10 (EMERGENCE OF MODERN AMERICA–PRESENT)

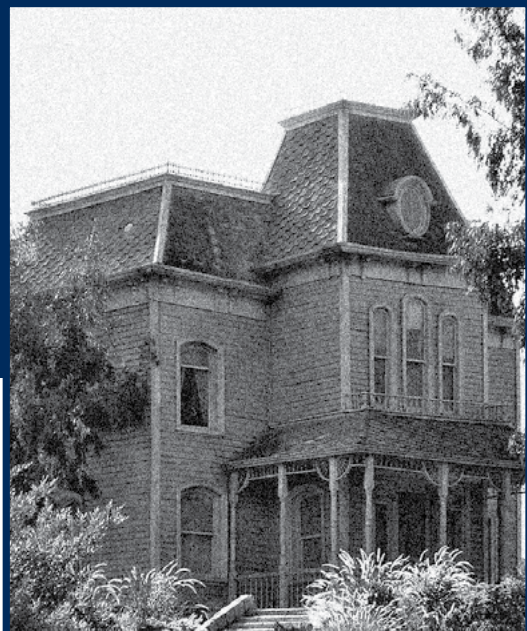
THEMES: AMERICAN IDENTITY AND CULTURE

# ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S AMERICA

## GUIDING QUESTIONS

What can we infer about the culture of the United States from viewing and analyzing an Alfred Hitchcock film?

**QUESTION FOCUS STATEMENT:**  
Hitchcock's films reflect the paranoia that lurked beneath the surface in post WW2 America.



Bates' Home in *Psycho* (1960).

## TEACHER-TO-TEACHER

The article “Alfred Hitchcock’s America” is not only an excellent introduction to the career of one of the greatest and most acclaimed film directors of all time, it provides a springboard for discussion about the role of movies in American culture, especially in post WW2 American society. Exploring the cultural and economic impact of the film industry is another way to connect eras and help students make meaning of their own lives and the world around them. Analyzing transcripts of a lecture by and an interview with Alfred Hitchcock enable students to gain insight into the artist’s own perception of self and his work.

**Literature Connections:** *Alfred Hitchcock’s America*, by Murray Pomerance, *Our Town*, by Thornton Wilder

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- 🍀 **Alfred Hitchcock’s America**  
by David Lehman ARTICLE
- 🍀 **Alfred Hitchcock** IMAGE
- 🍀 **Lecture by Alfred Hitchcock at Radio City Music Hall** DOCUMENT
- 🍀 **Making Sense of Film** DOCUMENT
- 🍀 **YouTube video of Salvador Dali-designed dream sequence from *Spellbound*** VIDEO

## RECOMMENDED INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

- Task 10**  
Question the Author
- Task 16**  
Speech
- Task 21**  
Acrostic Poem
- Task 23**  
Identifying Claim/Evidence
- Task 24**  
QFT (Question Formulation Technique)
- Task 25**  
Document Analysis/Sourcing

**fourscore**  
make history