

Comparing Texts: Suspension of Disbelief

CLOSE VIEWING

To enjoy a work of fiction, a reader or viewer suspends disbelief to accept the unreal as possible. Realistic details, convincing character reactions, and the tone of the text or film all help the audience experience the story as though it were real.

Directions: Watch the clip. Compare Swift’s portrayal of the Lilliputians in the text to their appearance in the film. In the box, note the details that help you suspend your disbelief and accept the Lilliputians as real. Then answer the questions that follow the chart.

Portrayal of the Lilliputians
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- How well does the tone of Swift’s writing translate to the film?
- How convincing were Gulliver’s reactions in the film compared to the text?
- How do the special effects from the film help you suspend your disbelief?