

TEAMWORK IN THE INTERNSHIP MOVIE DIRECTED BY SHAWN LEVY

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Abstract

Literature is one of the works which involves a lot of the human life aspects within itself. It is a tool used by various writers throughout time to convey messages figuratively. There are poetry, drama, prose, nonfiction, and media. The media is the newest type of literature genre that was created to encompass many new and important kinds of texts in today's society, which includes movies, websites, commercials, billboards, and radio programs. The movie particularly caught the writer's interests as it focuses on life aspects that are important in human life. One of the aspects that the writer is interested in analyzing is about the teamwork that happened between the main characters of the movie, as well as the type of teamwork performed by them, and what effects it had on them.

Keywords : *Literature, Movie, Teamwork*

INTRODUCTION

Movie is a motion picture that is produced for entertainment which tells a story. One of the examples of movies is *The Internship* directed by Shawn Levy, which was released in 2013. This movie particularly caught the writer's interests as it focuses on life aspects that are important in human life. One of the aspects that the writer is interested in analyzing is about the teamwork that happened between the main characters of the movie, as well as the type of teamwork performed by them, and what effects it had on them.

In the daily lives of humans, teamwork is an important thing that people should know about in order to be a decent human being. It is one aspect that everyone should possess to reach the goals that are near impossible and let each person individually grow in their lives. Furthermore, to help with the analysis that will be conducted, the writer compares research from other people that discussed similar topic in order for the readers to get a clear image on what the writer aims to analyze. Manzoor *et al* (2011; 122) in his journal *Effect of Teamwork on Employee Performance* states that "teamwork has a significant positive effects on employee performance", while Laberge (2013; 2573) in his journal *Teamwork in Crossdisciplinarity* states that their goal "is to explore what the parameters of teamwork are, such as certain conditions of the learning of collaborative work and the development skills of teamwork." In both journals, the experts particularly focused only on the effects and the parameters of teamwork. But, they left a lot of teamwork aspects untouched, which the writer hope to explore in this paper. The writer particularly want to focus on analyzing how the teamwork itself is represented, the type of teamwork performed by the characters, as well as its benefits.

In analyzing about the teamwork in *The Internship*, the writer has summed up the problem into three questions:

1. How the teamwork is presented in the movie?
2. What is type(s) of teamwork in the movie?
3. What is the benefit(s) of teamwork that the characters experienced?

Method and Procedures of the Analysis

The writer uses qualitative descriptive method in writing this paper. Qualitative descriptive method is a method that uses rich and straight description of an event that allows the user to stay closer to the data found (Neergaard *et al*, 2009;2). In addition, the writer has done the following procedures in order to arrange this paper. First, the writer finds references regarding teamwork, may it be in form of books and articles in order to better understand about the subject and gain relevant theories that would help the writer greatly in discussing about the teamwork, its types and its benefits. Then, after the writer found the theories needed for the research, the writer looks for data that are relevant to the subject of teamwork in the media that the writer analyzes, which is *The Internship* movie directed by Shawn Levy, by watching it several times in detail to find the relevant data regarding the subject. After that, the writer conveys the whole data found in the media (in this case, movie) in form of writing and give proofs in form of pictures that discussed about teamwork, its types and its benefits.

Results

Summary of the Story

The Internship movie begins with two salesmen named Billy McMahon (Vince Vaughn) and Nick Campbell (Owen Wilson) fired from their job. Shortly after, Billy and Nick went separate ways. Billy then searched for the job vacancy and decided to apply both of them for an internship. After that, they go for online interview. They got accepted due to their unorthodox answers.

Upon arriving, Billy and Nick are immediately seen as misfits due to them being the only interns not in post-college age. Shortly after, the CEO gathers the interns and announced a competition to win guaranteed job position in Google. Billy and Nick are put together with remaining interns that are seen as misfits: Stuart (Dylan O'Brien), Yo-Yo (Tobit Raphael), Neha (Tiya Sircar), and Lyle (Josh Brener). They also face a problem with an intern called Graham (Max Minghella), who thinks that only he could be the winner.

During the Quidditch game, the team nearly loses due to them being not in sync with each other. So, Billy and Nick propose them to work together. By doing teamwork, the team managed to catch up with Graham's team score, only losing out due to cheating. The team managed to win by the time the next challenge comes around

To the remainder of the summer, the team works together. However, near the end of their internship, Billy failed at the hotline challenge. Not wanting to bring the team down, he quits and joins his former boss. Due to this, the entire team becomes unstable and nearly fails the last challenge. Nick then persuades Billy to come back. With Billy

back, they work together to finish the final challenge. They win and managed to get their job. The teamwork is the driving force of the movie which keeps the team to stay together.

Findings and discussion

The Representation of Teamwork

After looking at the data, the writer has found two data regarding the representation of teamwork that is stated by Ingram. The data is listed by the writer in the following:

Data 1



Figure III.1. Billy and the team discussing their strategy. (0:55:26)

Supporting Dialogue:

Billy: “You guys are getting off the point here! She had to strip down to nothing! She had to sit down on that chair, pull the chain to nowhere back and douse herself with water!”

Nick: “Where did that water came from?”

Billy: “Who knows?!”

Nick: “It came from her belief that it was there!”

Billy: “She believed so hard that she found herself in front of an audition at the dance school. And oh she spun... And she spun and she spun, she spun herself into that dance school. And she spun herself into our hearts. Now in this second half of whatever hell you call this game... can’t we all be that little welder girl who wants to be something more? Now look, I know you’re not excited we’re on your team. But we’re here. We’re in this thing together. **So, I’m asking you to believe in yourselves. Believe in each other. Let’s put on our leg warmers... and let’s dance our asses off.**”

(Quidditch game, 0:54:32-0:55:19)

In the aforementioned dialogue, Billy scolded the team for missing off the point of their story of the little welder girl who never gives up and believes she could be something more. He then personally asked them to believe in themselves and each other, put on their leg warmers and “dance their asses off” in order to win the game. Billy’s strategy to improve his team in their performance on the second half is strongly related to the theory of teamwork stated by Ingram.

Data 2



Figure III.2. Billy and Nick assure the team that they did well. (0:58:07)

Supporting Dialogue:

Yo-Yo: "G.D. it!"

Billy : "Don't start that Yo-Yo, **you did your best out there. That's the first time we all came together as a team.**"

Nick : "Goddammit Billy's right. Let's keep it rolling. Just keep it rolling."

(End of the game, 0:57:54-0:58:07)

In the aforementioned dialogue, it is shown that the team ultimately lost to Graham's team due to Graham's cheating by kicking Billy. Yo-Yo expressed his frustration, but Billy said that he did his best and they have come together as a team for the first time during the second half of game. This is also related to the theory of teamwork stated by Ingram, as it shows that the strategy worked to improve their performance. The team may have lost in the game, but they have successfully improved their performance as a team and managed to do their best within the game.

Types of Teamwork

In this section, the writer is going analyze and find out about what the types of teamwork that exists in this movie by using the types of teamwork stated by Thompson (2017). After looking further into the data, the writer has found 4 data in the movie that is related to two of the team types, which are Tactical and Problem Solving Team. Those data are listed by the writer in the following list:

Tactical Team

Data 1



Figure III.3. Billy and the team competing in the game. (0:55:31)

In the scene above, Billy and the team are competing on the second half of the Quidditch match to catch up with their small scores. The team play the game in the exact way they planned how it would be, such as Stuart blinding the opponent with light from the sun and Billy stopping an opponent from scoring a point before they managed to put a goal. It managed to help them score a lot of points in a short time and got them to near victory. This is related to the first type of teamwork stated by Thompson, which is Tactical. The team is executing the plan which Billy had already laid out during their briefing.

Data 2



Figure III.4. Billy is ready to compete with the team. (1:31:47)

Supporting Dialogue:

Chetty: Good morning. Welcome to the Google Helpline. You will man the phones for exactly one hour. Before you begin...

Billy: **I'm so ready for this. I was up all night studying. This is where Team Lyle takes the lead.** (Google Helpline, 1:31:41-1:31:52)

In the aforementioned dialogue, Chetty explains to the interns that they will man the phones and become a helpline for one hour that will tend to various costumers with different complaints. Billy is confident enough that they will take the lead in this challenge as he had studied for it the night before and know enough. This is completely

in line with the first type of teamwork stated by Thompson, which is Tactical. Billy is executing the plan that the team had thought up beforehand.

Problem Solving Team

Data 3



Figure III.5. The team trying to solve the problem about a bug. (0:45:32)

In the scene above, the team tried to solve the problem about a bug that deactivated the Google audio within the source files. Together, they worked as a team and divided their jobs in order to find the bug which will solve the problem. This is in line with the second type of teamwork stated by Thompson, which is Problem Solving. In that scene, the team's goal is to solve the problem by finding the bug that is located within the source files of Google.

Data 4



Figure III.6. Solving the equation. (1:19:56)

In the scene above, the team was solving the data equation together. The team cheers up Neha constantly and assures her that she got it right as she does the equation as fast as she could. After Neha finished the equation, Chetty approved their answer. This is completely in line with the second type of teamwork stated by Thompson, which is Problem Solving as they managed to solve a problem with the equations.

The Benefits of the Teamwork

To analyze the benefits, the writer used the theory regarding teamwork benefits stated by Maddux & Wingfield (2003). After looking through the data, the writer has found 5 data, which has 4 that are related to the benefits of teamwork stated by Maddux & Wingfield, while the other one is a completely **new form of teamwork benefit**, which is to **increase closeness of each team members**.

Improving quality of work life for employees

Data 1



Figure III.7. Chetty informs the team of the app challenge. (1:19:03)

Supporting Dialogue:

Chetty: “**Astonishingly, your app... received ten times more downloads than any other team’s. It appears that you have won your first challenge.**”

Billy : “**How about it?!**”

Chetty: “**Congratulations.**”

Nick : “**Come on, baby!**”(The first win, 1:19:03-1:19:17)

In the aforementioned dialogue, Chetty, as the challenge supervisor, informed that the app Billy and his team created together received a lot more downloads compared to the other teams. Due to this, the team managed to win the challenge for the first time. Billy and Nick then express their excitement for winning the challenge and finally creating a success for the team. By working together, they managed to improve their quality of work life in Google. This is related to the first benefit of teamwork stated by Maddux & Wingfield, which says that it improves the quality of work life for employees, although in this case they are interns instead of employees.

Data 2



Figure III.8. The team working together. (1:19:35)

Billy and the team were working together and becoming more solid than ever. The team hangs out together and does things together to solve the problem. This was completely in line with the first benefit of teamwork stated by Maddux & Wingfield, which was to improve the quality of work life for employees. By working together, Billy and the team managed to improve their work life.

Reducing absenteeism and increasing turnover

Data 3



Figure III.9. The team praised by Chetty. (1:51:59)

Supporting Dialogue:

Chetty : “Yes. The rules are rules. And the rules state every team has a right until the announcement is right to turn in their sales. **So, in spite of lacking punctuality... which is astounding. I have no choice but to accept this submission and to recalculate.**”

Graham: “Go ahead, recalculate. One sale of a small family joint pizza won’t make any difference anyway.”

Chetty : “It does seem that Mr. Hawthrey is correct once again.”(Recalculating the scores, 1:50:41-1:51:10)

In the aforementioned dialogue, Chetty told Graham that the team has the right to turn in sales until the announcement and he had no choice but to accept the sales report submitted by Billy and the team. This is related to the second benefit of teamwork stated by Maddux & Wingfield that teamwork reduced absenteeism and increasing turnover. It shows that Billy and the team managed to reduce their absence during the last challenge and made Chetty recalculate the results of the last challenge, increasing their turnover.

Increasing innovation and change

Data 4



Figure III.10. Nick figured out what app they need to create. (1:18:04)

Supporting Dialogue:

Billy : “Lyle, you’re not flying. Look, what’s 17 squared?”
Lyle : “289, why?”
Billy : “Give me a harder question than that. You know I’m driving with this.”
Stuart : “Try, uh, maybe square root of seventeen.”
Lyle : “4.23, maybe?”
Nick : **“That’s the app. That’s the app we should do right there. Some quiz question you gotta answer before you can send a drunk text or drunk email or phone call. Something to protect you from yourself.”**
Billy : “That’s good! Can we do that?”
Neha : “Hells, yeah we could do that!”(On the bridge, 1:17:52-1:18:18)

In the aforementioned dialogue, when the team gathered on the bridge and bonded with each other, Nick noticed that Lyle is drunk and about to send an embarrassing message to a contact in his phone. Billy then asked mathematical questions at Lyle to see if he is well enough to answer it. Due to this, Nick got an idea to create an app that can protect phone users from drunken text antics. This is related to the third benefit of teamwork stated by Maddux & Wingfield that teamwork increases innovation and change. In this case, Billy and the team doing a proper teamwork gave them the idea to innovate and create an app that helps to preventing people from sending drunken texts.

Data 5



Figure III.11. Nick asked if they can use Emacs as the default code editor. (1:21:04)

Supporting Dialogue:

Dana: “When it comes to writing code, you got your choice of a number of editors, such as Emacs, nano and vi, of course.”
Billy : “What does that mean?”
Dana: “They also have syntax and autocomplete. Any questions?”
Nick : **“It occurred to me why not use Emacs rather than vi as the default editor of Ubuntu.”**
Dana : “That’s actually... a very good thought, Nick.”(Writing code, 1:20:48-1:21:10)

In the aforementioned dialogue, Dana is explaining in a seminar about the editors that can be used to write codes, such as Emacs, nano, vi, as well as syntax and autocomplete. Then, she asked if they had any questions and Nick asked her why they didn’t use Emacs for the default Ubuntu editor. Dana was impressed by the thought and praises Nick, calling it a “very good thought” and Nick saying thank you in return. This is in line with the third benefit of teamwork stated by Maddux &

Wingfield, which is to increase innovation and change. Nick is able to make an innovation by performing teamwork with his teammates.

Improving organizational adaptability and flexibility

Data 5



Figure III.12. Billy and Nick adapting to CSS and HTML. (1:20:34)

Supporting Dialogue:

- Nick : “See what I’m doing right now is I’m supercharging my CSS and HTML skills cause you can do both simultaneously.”
Billy : “HTML5, right?”
Nick : “That’s one step beyond the HTML5 they mentioned the other day with CSS3, remember?”
Billy : “No.”(Adapting to technology, 1:20:34-1:20:27)

In the aforementioned dialogue, Billy and Nick are learning to adapt with the CSS and HTML. Nick is the one who adapted more easily to it and be able to do both of them simultaneously. In the end, they managed to understand the CSS and HTML and applied it. This is related to the fourth benefit of teamwork stated by Maddux & Wingfield, which says that teamwork increases organizational adaptability and flexibility. In this case, by working together, Billy and Nick managed to increase their adaptability and be flexible.

Data 2



Figure III.13. Billy learning to adapt with Google helpline service. (1:28:37)

Billy is trying to learn how to be a good Google helpline service in order to perform with the team better. However, he is completely stuck in his element and feel helpless in learning it. But then, he is helped by “Headphones”, a person from Google who got great skills with Google service. Billy was then convinced by him to try doing the helpline service. In matter of minutes, he is able to get comfortable by repeating the same thing over and over. This is completely in line with the fourth benefit of teamwork by Maddux & Wingfield, which is to increase organizational adaptability and flexibility. By doing teamwork, Billy is able to adapt with the material and be comfortable to do it.

1. Increasing closeness between team members

Data 6



Figure III.13. Nick bonds with Stuart. (1:15:56)

Supporting Dialogue:

- Nick : “You’re not gonna see that in your 4-inch screen, you gotta look up. **Buddy, you’re an animal out there tonight. Yeah, you were, you have a good time?**”
- Stuart : “Yeah. It was all right.”
- Nick : “‘It was all right.’ Why do you do that?”
- Stuart : “What do you mean? Do what?”
- Nick : “Lowball me like that. Come on, I’m not going to take away your cool guy card if you admit you give a shit or, God forbid, you had a great time.”
- Stuart : “Um, alright. It was fun.”
- Nick : “Stewie...”
- Stuart : “What?”
- Nick : “Come on.”
- Stuart : “What you want me to say? It was the best night of my life?”
- Nick : “Only if it is true.”
- Stuart : “All right. It was the best night of my life.”
- Nick : “**My Noogler! Come here!**”
- (Nick and Stuart’s talk, 1:15:52-1:16:39)

In the aforementioned dialogue, Nick is persuading Stuart to not always look on his smartphone’s screen and look on his surroundings, reminding him that it is not something that he could see everyday. After that, Nick asks him if he had a good time and Stuart answered that it was “all right”. However, believing he wasn’t telling the truth, Nick persuades him again and says that admitting that he had a great time won’t take away his “cool guy card.” Stuart then asked if he has to say it was “the best night of his life”. Nick answers that he can say that if only that is true. Hearing that, Stuart finally relented and said that he indeed had the “best of night of his life”, prompting Nick to become close friends with him by giving him a pat. This

is related to the fifth benefit found by the writer, which was to increase closeness between team members. By coming together as a team, Nick and Stuart managed to increase their closeness and becoming good friends with each other.

Data 2



Figure III.14. Billy bonds with Neha. (1:16:41)

Supporting Dialogue:

- Billy : “Wow. I don’t believe there hasn’t been one boyfriend along the way.”
Neha : “Nope. That’s embarrassing.”
Billy : **“Nah. It’s nothing to be embarrassed of. You got plenty of time. I mean you’re the whole package. You’re beautiful, you’re smart, you got great teeth. You do. Unbelievable choppers on the old girl, I mean it! For sure!** And terrific shoes, I’d like to see what kind of get-up you’re going to throw together.”
Neha : “That part’s true.”
Billy : **“Oh it is true. A lot of great things going on. Some guy will find himself very lucky to be next to you.”**
Neha : “Yeah, I’m not so sure.”
Billy : **“Well, I am. And I’ve been around a little bit. I’m positive.”**
(Billy and Neha’s talk, 1:16:41-1:17:28)

In the aforementioned dialogue, Billy and Neha were talking about Neha’s love life. In their talk, Billy convinced Neha that she has a lot of good things on her that will make a guy feel very lucky to be next to her. However, Neha wasn’t sure about it, so Billy convinced her that she would find that guy. Impressed, Neha puts her head on Billy’s shoulder as a sign of their friendship. This is related to the new discovery of teamwork benefits found by the writer, which is to increase closeness between team members. Due to their teamwork, Billy and Neha were able to

Conclusion

Teamwork is a strategy that has a good potential to improve the performance of the individuals. But, this strategy needs to be nurtured over time in order to be considered as teamwork. In this view, teamwork is seen as something that can improve the individuals’ performance. In *The Internship* movie, the writer can conclude that the characters in this movie performed a few types of teamwork. The teamwork in this movie are represented very well. They also learn a lot of benefits from the teamwork itself until they can finally improve their own individual performance by performing together as a team.

The writer finds 2 data regarding the teamwork representation. Both of them are related to the statement that teamwork is a strategy that can improve performance of the individual. Regarding the types of teamwork in the movie, the writer has collected 2 out of 6 types of teamwork, which are 1) tactical and 2) problem solving.

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