



1. Speak

Discuss the questions below with your classmate.

What have been the most popular action movies in your country in recent years?

Try to think of some famous heroes and villains from action movies.

What is your opinion of these types of movies? Explain.

2. Listen and speak

Watch the trailer for the action movie The Legend of Tarzan. Listen carefully, and then answer the questions below.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=dLmKio67pVQ

- At the start of the trailer, what information does the man give about his family?
- What does the villain need the woman to do? Why?
- At the end of the trailer, what theory does the woman express about men?

Discuss with your classmate:

- In what way is the story of this trailer typical of the stories represented in action movies?
- Would this trailer convince you to see the movie? Explain.



3a. Read 

Read the text and decide the correct position (1–5) for the missing sentences (a–e) below.

How to make an action movie

The plots of action movies can be complex or simple but they generally share the same basic elements. Most importantly, the movie needs a hero and a villain. The hero needs to be likable, perhaps unconventional and physically competent. Of course, it also helps if they have the full lips and defined bone structure of a fashion model.

(1) _____ In some movies, the heroes and villains are entire groups of people. While this risks confusing the viewers somewhat, it does allow the movie studios to raise their merchandise profits – why include just one superhero when *The Avengers* had five? (2) _____ This could range from a hero's innocent loved one to an entire planet of people who are unaware that some villain is about to blow them all up.

Speaking of blowing people up, any well-made action movie is going to need explosions. Lots of them.

(3) _____ Unless, of course, it's directed by a more old-school type of director who rejects computer graphics in favour of stunt performers jumping out of burning cars. A good director will also make sure not to blow up the car until the end of a long pursuit. (4) _____ And at the end of it all, let's not forget the inevitable fight, the archetypical battle of good versus evil. (5) _____ Usually, yes, but that doesn't stop the audience from biting their nails as well as their popcorn.

- a) Will our hero win?
- b) Apart from righteous warriors, there also need to be victims to be saved.
- c) What would an action movie be without a thrilling chase, whether in cars, spaceships or through a forest on foot?
- d) As for the villain, well you've guessed it: the more despicable the better.
- e) To enable this, it's also going to need special effects.

