

Cinema

Upper-intermediate

1 Match the descriptions

Match the types of films with the phrases that are most likely to describe them.

a thriller
a sci-fi film

a romantic comedy
a horror film

an animated film
a costume drama

1. An all-action movie with great *stunts* and a real *cliffhanger* of an ending that will have you *on the edge of your seat*.
2. *Set on* a star cruiser in the distant future, this film has great *special effects*.
3. A hilarious new film, about two unlikely lovers, which will have you laughing out loud.
4. *Based on* a novel by Jane Austen, this new *adaptation* by William Jones has been filmed *on location* at Harewood House in Hampshire.
5. A fantastic new computer-generated cartoon, featuring the voice of Eddie Murphy as the donkey.
6. This new film will scare you to death.

Now match the words in *italics* in the descriptions to the definitions below.

1. exciting
2. not filmed in a studio
3. the story comes from (a novel)
4. dangerous action sequences like car chases or people falling from skyscrapers
5. amazing, impossible visual sequences, often created by computers
6. changing a novel to a film screenplay
7. where the story takes place
8. exciting end – you want to know what happens

2 Answer the questions

Use the words below to answer the questions.

the latest release
the credits
the titles

the soundtrack
a multiplex
a screen test

a trailer
the rushes

1. What do you call the songs and background music to a film?
2. What do you call a big cinema with lots of screens?
3. What do you call the bit at the start of the film that tells you the name of the film, the actors and director? And what do you call the words on the screen at the end that tell you who played who, and who was the cameraman, set designer, etc.?
4. Which phrase means a new film?
5. Which word means a short film made to advertise a new film?
6. What do you call film before it is edited?
7. What do you call a short scene filmed to find out if the actor is good in a particular part?

3 Vocabulary

What is the difference between the following?

1. A film and a movie
2. An art house film and a blockbuster
3. A co-star and an extra
4. A cameraman and a projectionist
5. The cinema and the pictures
6. The cast and casting
7. *Action!* and *Cut!*

4 Vocabulary

When making a film, in which order do you do the things in the list?

editing the film
casting
writing the screenplay

filming
releasing the film
finding locations

5 Compound adjectives

Film reviews often use compound adjectives to describe films. Make compound adjectives by matching words in A with words in B.

Example: *action-packed*

A	B
action	moving
slow	packed
spine	warming
breath	fetchd
hard	taking
heart	chilling
far	hitting

6 Complete the gaps

Use compound adjectives from activity 5 to complete the film reviews below.

Beautiful People is a romantic melodrama. It lasts three hours, and has a _____ plot, which gets a bit boring. However, the _____ performance by Tim Franks in the central role will move you to tears. It also has a _____ message about how we should deal with AIDS.

The Monster Movie is both a comedy and a horror film. It has a _____ storyline, which you just won't believe, but it also has some _____ stunts, which look really dangerous. It has a _____ ending which is so scary you will cover your eyes.

7 Speaking

Think of a film that you have seen recently, and answer the questions.

1. What was the name of the film?
2. What sort of film was it?
3. Who directed it? Who starred in it?
4. What was it based on?
5. Where was it set?
6. What was it about?
7. How would you describe the film, the performance of the actors, the stunts and special effects?
8. Would you recommend it? Why?

Interview your partner about their film. Tell the class about your partner's film.