

PRACTISE YOUR READING SKILLS

Reading know-how

- При выполнении задания на установление соответствия, сначала ответьте на простые, а затем на более сложные для вас вопросы.
- При выборе заголовка имейте в виду, что он должен отражать главную мысль. Информация может быть упомянута в тексте, но не передавать его основное содержание.



Read and answer

You are going to read a magazine article about films. Choose the most suitable heading from the list **A-I** for each part (1-7) of the article. There is one extra heading which you do not need to use. There is an example at the beginning (0).

- | | |
|---|---|
| A Planning the filming | F The right leader with business sense |
| B Selling it to the right person | G Putting the pieces together |
| C Breaking down the budget | H Hard work, but worth it |
| D Not as glamorous as you think | I It all has to work |
| E Give people what they expect | |

Lights, Camera, Action

0 _____

Making a film is such a complicated process that it's a wonder any of them ever get made. When you go to your local cinema to see what's on, do you ever think of all the separate steps that have to come together to end up with what you see on the big screen? Where does it start?

1 _____

Most films start as an idea. It might be in a director's mind, or in a writer's mind, but wherever it comes from, it's the producer who needs convincing. The producer is the businessman who finds the money to make the film. If you've got an idea for the next blockbuster, you need to find somebody who is willing to make your film. The producer will then organize the budget and decide how much it is worth spending on the film.

2 _____

The producer will decide who is going to be responsible for making the film: the director.

This is an important decision since the director is the person who will be in charge of the whole cast and crew. The producer will either find somebody who has made similar films in the past or he or she might take a chance on a new director. Most importantly, the producer wants someone he or she can trust to do a good job and to stay under budget.

3 _____

The producer and director will then choose the other people to work on the film and will decide on the members of the cast. People feel very strongly about actors and a film has to have the right ones if it is to draw people into cinemas. Actors usually become associated with a particular kind of film in the mind of the public and it can be a risk to cast an actor in a different kind of role. Auditions and screen tests might be held to make final decisions and rehearsals will begin.

4

While the actors are developing their characters, the director will be making other key decisions concerning things such as location. Where the film is shot is very important and the locations for filming will be chosen carefully. The film will also be storyboarded, with pictures of all the key moments. Special effects will be planned and costumes will be designed. This pre-production phase can take a long time because there may not be a chance to change things later.

5

The actual shooting can take anywhere from a few weeks to a year, or possibly even more. The actors spend a lot of time waiting for everything to be right – the set, the lighting, the cameras – and boredom can be a real problem. Life at the Oscars might seem wonderful, but life on a film set can be stressful and tedious.



B Discuss

In pairs, discuss the answers you have chosen. Have you chosen the same answers for the same reasons?

6

Once filming is over, post-production begins. This is the stage where all the elements of the film are brought together. The film is edited so that it tells a clear story and any special effects are perfected. Music is added to emphasise the excitement or the emotion of certain moments in the film. Often, the film is previewed to small audiences and changes are made, depending on their reactions. Finally, the film makes its way into the cinemas.

7

Once the process is over, what the backers will want to know is where the money has gone. We hear a lot these days about the huge fees commanded by stars, but the cast will typically cost around 10% of the total budget. Pre- and post-production costs will account for 50%, while the director and crew will take another 10%. This leaves around 30% of the total cost of the film to be spent on actual filming.

Grammar focus

The film **is edited** to make the story clear.
The special effects **are perfected**.

Auditions and screen tests **might be held**.
The film **is previewed** to small audiences.

Remind yourself why we use the passive voice. Circle Yes or No.

We might use the passive voice ...

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| when we don't know who did something. | <u>Yes / No</u> |
| when who did something is not important. | <u>Yes / No</u> |
| to confuse others. | <u>Yes / No</u> |
| for emphasis. | <u>Yes / No</u> |
| to produce a more formal style. | <u>Yes / No</u> |

Decide why these sentences have been written in the passive by circling a or b.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 A storyboard is produced with pictures of the action.
a The process is more important than the people who do it.
b The writer wants to emphasise how difficult it is. | 4 Mistakes are sometimes made during the filming of a scene.
a The writer doesn't want to blame an innocent person.
b There are many different people who might make mistakes. |
| 2 The most famous actors are paid more.
a We are not interested in who pays the money.
b The writer wants to emphasise that the actors are famous. | 5 When a film is released, cinemas decide whether to show it.
a It is not important who releases the film.
b The writer wants to be more exact. |
| 3 Computers are used in the editing process.
a The writer wants to emphasise the computers rather than the people.
b We don't know the name of the editor on this film. | |