

READING COMPREHENSION



From **"Dr No"** to **"Spectre"**

"The Bond saga received the Academy Award on various occasions."

The film saga starring James Bond – agent 007 is the longest and best known series of Hollywood cinema. This spy, created by the British writer Ian Fleming in his books, was always in the company of glamorous women.

Six different actors played the role of James Bond and there were never more than 6 years between two films.

Sean Connery starred in *Dr. No* (1962), *From Russia with Love* (1963), *Goldfinger* (1964), *Thunderball* (1965), and *You Only Live Twice* (1967). Then, George Lazenby was the protagonist in *On Her Majesty's Secret Service* (1969). Sean Connery, returning to the Bond films starred in *Diamonds are Forever* in 1971. And once again in *Never Say Never Again* (1983). In 1973, Roger Moore became the new leading actor of the series in *Live and Let Die*. Roger Moore was the protagonist in 6 more films: *The Man with the Golden Gun* (1974), *The Spy Who Loved Me* (1977), *Moonraker* (1979), *For Your Eyes Only* (1981), *Octopussy* (1983) and *A View to a Kill* (1985).

Timothy Dalton took over in 1987 to film *The Living Daylights* and *License to Kill* (1989).

Pierce Brosnan followed, starring in 4 Bond films, *GoldenEye* (1995), *Tomorrow*

Never Dies (1997), *The World is not Enough* (1999) and *Die Another Day* (2002).

The present protagonist of the saga, Daniel Craig, first appeared in *Casino Royale* (2006) and continued in *Quantum of Solace* (2008), *Skyfall* (2012) and *Spectre* (2015).

The Bond won Academy Awards on various occasions. The first Oscar nomination and win came with *Goldfinger* for Best Sound Effects. The following year *Thunderball* received another Oscar for Best Special Visual Effects. From then onwards, they picked up seven more nominations, one for *Diamonds are Forever*, one for *Live and Let Die* (for the title song written by Paul & Linda McCartney), three for *The Spy Who Loved Me*, one for *Moonraker* and a final Best Song nomination with *For Your Eyes Only*. Then, in 2012, *Skyfall* became the most successful Bond film at the box office and the Oscars, earning five nominations and winning two: Best Sound Editing and Best Original Song for Adele's title theme.

1 Read and answer.

1. Who is the main character in *Dr. No* and *Spectre*?
2. Are the protagonists the same in the two films?
3. Were the films based on books?
4. How many Oscars did the Bond saga win?
5. Why are Paul & Linda McCartney and Adele mentioned in the text?