

Names: _____

Last names: _____

13 READING

DREW BARRYMORE

Actor, Producer, Director

Scan the article. Where was Drew Barrymore born? When did she start working? When did she win the Golden Globe Award?

Drew Barrymore was born in Los Angeles, California, in 1975. She comes from a long line of actors. In fact, her grandfather, John Barrymore, was one of the most famous actors in the United States in the 1920s.

Drew Barrymore began her career very early. Before her first birthday, she appeared in a TV commercial for dog food. At the age of two, she acted in her first TV movie. At age five, she appeared in her first feature film, the sci-fi thriller *Altered States*.

Barrymore's big break came two years later, at age seven. Director Steven Spielberg decided to cast her in his film *E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial*. Hollywood took notice, and Drew became a star.



As a young adult, Barrymore acted in several dramas and romantic comedies; however, she wanted to make her own films. In 1995, she started her own production company, Flower Films. Four years later, she produced her first film, *Never Been Kissed*. Over the years, her company has made a lot of famous movies and TV programs, including *Fever Pitch* in 2005 and the new *Charlie's Angels* TV series in 2011.

In 2007, Barrymore's career took a new turn. She began working for the United Nations World Food Programme. Later, she donated \$1 million to the program. Then, after a terrible earthquake in Haiti in 2010, she urged people to give money to the program in a YouTube video.

Meanwhile, Barrymore's work on movies continued. In 2009, she became a director with the film *Whip It*. In the same year, she won the Golden Globe Award as an actress for her role in *Grey Gardens*.

Drew Barrymore wears many different hats and works very long hours. What does she do in her free time? She spends time with the people she cares about. She says, "I don't know what I'd do without my friends."



A Read the article. Find the words in *italics* below in the article. Then circle the meaning of each word or phrase.

1. When you get a *big break*, you experience a sudden **advance / accident**.
2. To *cast* an actor means to **hire / fire** the actor.
3. A *production company* **trains young actors / makes films**.
4. If you *urged* someone to do something, you **encouraged / discouraged** him or her.
5. When an actor plays a *role* in a film, he or she **wins an award / acts as another person**.
6. When someone *wears many different hats*, he or she **does a lot of different jobs / wins a lot of different awards**.





B Number these sentences about Drew Barrymore from 1 (first event) to 10 (last event).

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|---------|--------------------------------|-------|--|
| | a. She became a film director. | | f. She started working for the United Nations. |
| | b. She became a film producer. | | g. She got her first role in a feature film. |
| | c. She gave away \$1 million. | | h. She produced the movie <i>Fever Pitch</i> . |
| | d. She was in a TV commercial. | | i. She became very famous as a child actor. |
| 1 | e. She was born in California. | | j. She started her own production company. |



C PAIR WORK Who is your favorite actor or actress? What do you know about his or her life and career?

