OSCARS TO REMEMBER

WARM-UP QUESTIONS: *Discuss the following questions.*

1. How often do you go to the cinema? What types of movies do you like to see?
2. Read the headline above. Have you heard this news story? If so, say what you know. If not, can you guess what it's about?

VOCABULARY: *Match the following vocabulary words with a description. Use a dictionary if you need to.*

1. Normalcy	**a) unable to hear or hear very well**
2. Memorable	**b) one after another**
3. Deaf	**c) something done to get attention or amuse people**
4. Role	**d) to act a part in a play, movie, or TV show**
5. Nominee	**e) the past tense of swear: to use rude words**
6. Sign language	**f) a person that has been nominated for something**
7. In a row	**g) the state of most things being normal**
8. Swore	**h) easy to remember, worth remembering**
9. Stunt	**i) a system of hand and body movements that is used for communication, especially by people that cannot hear or talk and their families**
10. Portray	**j) an actor's part in a play, movie, or TV show**

LISTEN: *Listen to your teaching reading the text. Try to fill in the missing words. Then check your answers with the full text.*

American cinema's biggest event, the Academy Awards, was held in Hollywood last night. Early on it was looking like a_____to normalcy, with the first full audience since the coronavirus situation improved. However, several___happened that will make this year's ceremony one of the most memorable.

The Oscar for Best Supporting Actor went to deaf actor Troy Kotsur for his role in the movie, *CODA*. He is the first deaf_____Oscar nominee. Immediately after receiving the award, he handed it back to the presenter so that he could use his hands to give his acceptance speech in

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_____ language. Audience members showed their appreciation with deaf applause - shaking their hands in the air.

Later, Jane Campion, director of *The Power of the Dog* became only the third woman ever to win the Oscar for Best Director. However, in a_____trend for women, it was the second year in a row that a woman has won the award.

The most memorable moment came near the end of the show. Comedian Chris Rock was commenting on various audience_____when he made a joke indirectly referring to Jada Pinkett Smith's extremely short hair. Pinkett Smith's husband, actor Will Smith, initially laughed, but then seemed to get__by the joke. He walked onstage and slapped the stunned Chris Rock. After returning to his seat, Will Smith then swore at the_____, warning him to not talk about his wife. The audience, who had seemed unsure if they were watching a planned stunt, became quiet when they realized Smith was genuinely angry. Bizarrely, Smith was back onstage minutes later collecting the_____for Best Actor for portraying Venus and Serena William's father in *King Richard*.

Among the other awards, Best Actress went to Jessica Chastain for her performance in *The Eyes of Tammy Faye*, and the Best Picture Oscar was given to *CODA*.

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The Oscar for Best Supporting Actor went to deaf actor Troy Kotsur for his role in the movie, *CODA*. He is the first deaf male Oscar nominee. Immediately after receiving the award, he handed it back to the presenter so that he could use his hands to give his acceptance speech in sign language. Audience members showed their appreciation with deaf applause - shaking their hands in the air.

Later, Jane Campion, director of *The Power of the Dog* became only the third woman ever to win the Oscar for Best Director. However, in a positive trend for women, it was the second year in a row that a woman has won the award.

The most memorable moment came near the end of the show. Comedian Chris Rock was commenting on various audience members when he made a joke indirectly referring to Jada Pinkett Smith's extremely short hair. Pinkett Smith's husband, actor Will Smith, initially laughed, but then seemed to get upset by the joke. He walked onstage and slapped the stunned Chris Rock. After returning to his seat, Will Smith then swore at the comedian, warning him to not talk about his wife. The audience, who had seemed unsure if they were watching a planned stunt, became quiet when they realized Smith was genuinely angry. Bizarrely, Smith was back onstage minutes later collecting the award for Best Actor for portraying Venus and Serena William's father in *King Richard*.

Among the other awards, Best Actress went to Jessica Chastain for her performance in *The Eyes of Tammy Faye*, and the Best Picture Oscar was given to *CODA*.

COMPREHENSION: *Decide if the following are true (T) or false (F), and then discuss your answers with your partner(s).*

1. The Academy Awards were held in Bollywood. (T / F)
2. A deaf actor won an award. (T / F)
3. A woman won the Best Director Oscar for the second consecutive year. (T / F)
4. Chris Rock won an award. (T / F)

COMPLETE: *Re-order the following sentences. Capitalize certain words and add punctuation.*

1. speech / oscar / the / signed / winner / acceptance / his

_____

2. surprised / comedian / the / was / incredibly

_____

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DISCUSSION: *Discuss the following questions with your partner(s). Try to speak in sentences and ask follow-up questions.*

1. Who is your favorite actor? Who is your favorite actress? What are their memorable performances?
2. Did you see any of the Oscar-nominated films this year? Did you have a favorite? If not, do you plan to watch any of them?
3. When a film wins awards, does that make you want to see it or not see it?
4. Do you ever watch awards shows on television? Why or why not?
5. Do you know any deaf people? In what ways are the lives of deaf people different from those of hearing people?
6. Do you know any sign language? If so, please demonstrate one sign.
7. Why do some people get angry at jokes?
8. When is it okay to hit another person?
9. When was the last time you were in an audience? What were you watching? How was the atmosphere?
10. How do you feel about swearing? When is it okay to use 'bad' language?

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY: 1-g, 2-h, 3-a. 4-j, 5-f, 6-i, 7-b, 8-e, 9-c, 10-d

COMPREHENSION: 1-F, 2-T, 3-T, 4-F

COMPLETE: 1. The Oscar winner signed his acceptance speech. 2. The comedian was incredibly surprised.

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