

❖ Read and answer the following questions (course book P.210)

Grandmother's Farm, premiered at the Dubai International Film Festival in 2013. It's a low budget 'horror comedy' film directed by Ahmed Zain, an amateur Emirati film-maker, and it follows a group of friends who spend a weekend at their grandmother's farmhouse. There, they come face-to-face with a strange, unwelcome guest, who turns their peaceful evening into chaos. Something about this film's crazy humour appealed to Emirati audiences because *Grandmother's Farm* became a big hit in the UAE. It was shown across the country for five weeks during the following year, which is most unusual for a film of this type.

Nobody was more surprised by the success of *Grandmother's Farm* than its creator/director, Ahmed Zain. 'People generally loved it. And they kept encouraging me on social media and other places to make a second one,' he laughs. Zain works as a mechanical engineer by day, but has been making amateur films for the last 13 years. *Grandmother's Farm* made enough profits to cover its Dh300,000 budget and more.

So, with money to spend and encouraged by the first film's success, Zain decided to make *Grandmother's Farm 2*.

'For the first film, we paid for everything from our own pockets and so many people worked for free. It was a very low-budget setting,' explains Zain. 'In the second film, you will notice the production is a bit more slick and clever as we had a lot more people involved in it, including the Abu Dhabi Music & Arts Foundation (Admaf)'. *Grandmother's Farm 2* sees the boys from *Grandmother's Farm* back in a new adventure. This time, they are going on a road trip from Abu Dhabi to Fujairah and once again, strange things start to happen, with hilarious results ...

➤ Choose a, b or c

1. Who was more surprised by the film success?
 - a. the director
 - b. Abu Dhabi Music & Art Foundation (ADmaf)
 - c. people

2. The film is a combination of _____
 - a. horror and adventure
 - b. horror and science-fiction
 - c. horror and comedy

3. Why did the director decide to make a second film on the same theme ?
 - a. because his first film was not very good.
 - b. because of the first film success and people encouraged him.
 - c. because (Admaf) helped him.

4. How long was *Grandmother's Farm* in the cinemas for?
 - a. five days
 - b. five weeks
 - c. five months

5. Why did some people work for free in *Grandmother's Farm* 1?
 - a. Because they didn't want money.
 - b. Because they love acting.
 - c. Because the budget was not enough .

➤ True (T) , False (F) or Not Given

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| 1. <i>Grandmother's Farm 1</i> was very successful. | T | F | NG |
| 2. The film is directed by a famous Emirati film-maker. | T | F | NG |
| 3. Ahmad Zain works as an engineer and he started making movies when he was thirty. | T | F | NG |
| 4. The film was shown across the gulf countries. | T | F | NG |
| 5. Many people participated in making <i>Grandmother's Farm 2</i> . | T | F | NG |
| 6. The second film was more successful than the first one. | T | F | NG |