Kathryn Bigelow (1) ..... (just / win) the Academy Award for Best Director – the first woman ever to do so. So, who is she?

Bigelow was born in California in 1951. She studied film at Columbia University and (2) ..... (work) in film since the mid-1970s. She (3) ..... (be) a female pioneer in the male-dominated world of film directing – she (4) ..... (direct) since 1978 and in that time (5) ..... (direct) eight feature films. In the last ten years, she (6) ..... (also / produce) films. Some of her films (7) ..... (be) modest successes, but she is best known now for *The Hurt Locker*, the film for which she won the Oscar. Only four women (8) ..... (ever / be nominated) for Best Director, and of the others, Jane Campion and Sofia Coppola (9) ..... (have) other Oscar awards.

As well as directing, Bigelow (10) ..... (act) in one film and (11) ..... (also / appear) as a model during her career. Since her success with *The Hurt Locker* she (12) ..... (look) at possibilities for a new crime film set in South America.