

Practice 1

Read the text and answer questions 1 to 8.

A Beauty Queen Who Knows Kung Fu

Michelle Yeoh who is an international film star is a Malaysian. She was born in Ipoh, Perak on August 6th, 1962. She didn't start her career as an actress. Her first love was ballet. She yearned to be a ballerina since she was a young girl. She began to dance ballet at the tender age of four. Then, at 15 years old, she went abroad to the United Kingdom to study. After completing her secondary school, she continued her tertiary education at the Royal Academy of Dance in London, majoring in ballet. Sadly, this dream to be a professional ballet dancer was shattered when she suffered a spinal cord injury. Despite this setback, she still managed to complete her degree in choreography and drama.

In the summer of 1983, she returned to Malaysia to discover that her mother had registered her name to compete in the Miss Malaysia beauty pageant. She was completely surprised by this little twist of event. Fortunately, for her, it was a good twist of event because she won the title of Miss Malaysia that year.

Winning the beauty contest had catapulted her straight into the limelight. So, in 1984, she went to Hong Kong to launch her acting career. Her first time on the camera was for Guy Laroche, a watch commercial with Jackie Chan. From then onwards, she continued to act in over a dozen of martial arts movies and became a household name. She also made history as the first Asian female to be cast in the 1997 James Bond movie, *Tomorrow Never Dies*. She played the role of Wai Lin alongside Pierce Brosnan. Brosnan described her as the female version of James Bond due to her skills in martial arts. Michelle Yeoh is without a doubt a prolific actress with an illustrious career of our time.

Complete the following mind map.

Fill in the blanks with reference to the text.

Background:

1. Nationality: _____
2. Place of birth: _____



A Beauty Queen Who Knows Kung Fu

Talent and Education Background:

3. Started Ballet Dancing:

4. Reason for quitting ballet:

5. University Attended:

Achievements:

6. Title won in 1983:

7. First onscreen work:

8. Character played in James Bond movie: