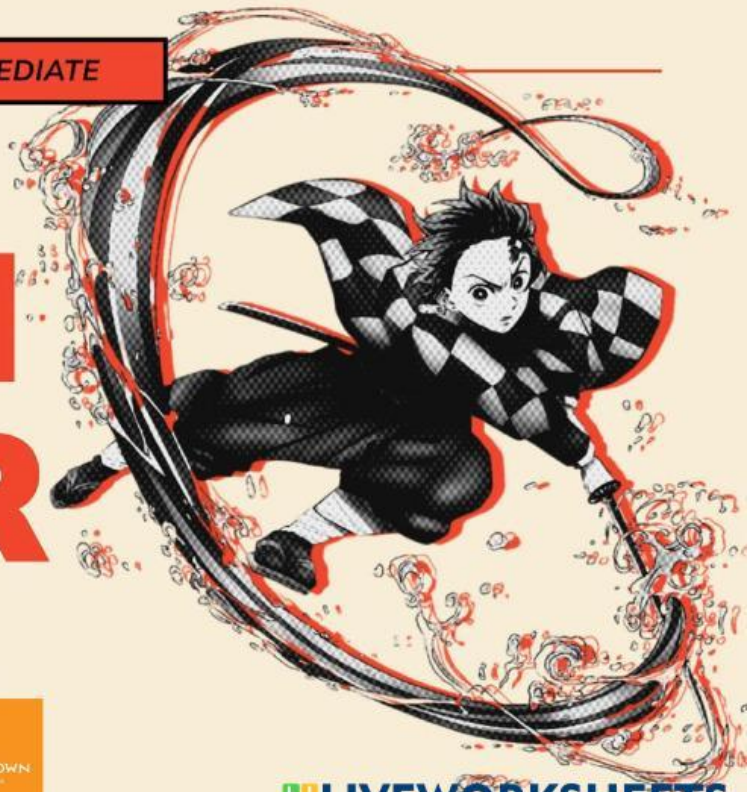


INTERMEDIATE

DEMON SLAYER



MINJI TOWN
LIVEWORKSHEETS

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Vocabulary

1) Match words and pictures:

teenager



hunter



mind-blowing



entertainment



storytelling



Vocabulary

2) Now, match the words with their respective meanings:

A) Teenager

B) Hunter

C) Mind-Blowing

D) Entertainment

E) Storytelling

☐ a person who looks for and catches or kills animals, usually for food or sport .

☐ something that is very surprising, amazing, or hard to believe.

☐ a young person between 13 and 19 years old.

☐ the act of telling or writing stories to entertain, teach, or share ideas.

☐ something that people enjoy watching or doing because it is fun and helps them relax.

Reading And Comprehending

Demon Slayer star says anime film's success is mind-blowing

By Abu Bakar Yasin
September 30th, 2025
BBC Newsbeat

The lead voice actor in global box office smash Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba Infinity Castle says he's been "blown away" by the anime film's success. Based on a 2016 manga series, the film is the first part of a trilogy that caps off the story of an enormously popular animated TV series launched in 2019.

It follows the story of teenager Tanjiro Kamado, who joins a team of demon hunters after his sister is turned into one.



"Demon Slayer is a pop culture phenomenon,"
says voice actor Yuhua Aoyama.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Reading And Comprehending

Zach Aguilar, who plays Tanjiro in the English language version, told BBC Newsbeat that the success of the film shows the series has become a full-on "pop culture phenomenon". Since its release, Infinity Castle has taken more than \$600m (£447m) at the worldwide box office, putting it ahead of Mission: Impossible and Fantastic Four in this year's top 10. It hit the number one spot in its first week in Japan and the US, and was only kept off the top in the UK by Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale.

Zach, 27, who has lent his voice to dozens of video games and anime titles, tells Newsbeat anime "has slowly been on this track to reaching mainstream popularity". He thinks Infinity Castle is the title that pushed it over the line.

"I just think it's so freaking cool to have anime be this mainstream thing and Demon Slayer be the backbone of that," he says.

Reading And Comprehending

Rahul Purini, president of streaming service Crunchyroll, told the BBC earlier this year that anime was "one of the fastest-growing entertainment sectors" in the world. He said it owes its popularity to the many sub-genres and styles that exist within the medium.

"What makes anime for us is that it is authentically conceived and created in Japan," he said. "It is a very unique storytelling format, and it has not only stunning visuals, but strong characters, very unique storytelling that's set in these amazing worlds, and that's what attracts fans to these stories."

The company estimates there are 1.5 billion "anime-curious" fans around the world who are finding it easier to access popular shows as streamers such as Crunchyroll and Netflix add them to their services.

Reading And Comprehending

Now, read the following sentences and decide if they are True (T) or False (F):

- ☐ The movie Infinity Castle is a live-action adaptation of the 2016 manga.
- ☐ The animated TV series Demon Slayer began in 2019.
- ☐ Zach Aguilar is the Japanese voice actor for Tanjiro Kamado.
- ☐ The film earned more than \$600 million at the global box office.
- ☐ Infinity Castle was the number one film in Japan and the US during its first week.

Reading And Comprehending

Now, read the following sentences and decide if they are True (T) or False (F):

- ☐ The movie was also the top film in the UK during its release week.
- ☐ Zach Aguilar believes Infinity Castle helped anime become more mainstream.
- ☐ Rahul Purini works for Netflix as a content producer.
- ☐ Crunchyroll's president says anime's appeal comes from its originality and storytelling.
- ☐ Streaming platforms have made anime more accessible to fans around the world.

Talking Point

1) Have a pair discussion about these questions and write the main topics discussed in a piece of paper provided:

- a) Why do you think Demon Slayer's story connects so strongly with global audiences?
- b) What role do streaming services play in the spread of anime culture?
- c) What makes anime storytelling unique compared to other animation styles?

Grammar Point - Reported Speech And Direct Speech

1) Take a look at these sentences taken from the text:

1

Zach Aguilar [...] told BBC Newsbeat that the success of the film shows the series has become a full-on "pop culture phenomenon".

2

"What makes anime for us is that it is authentically conceived and created in Japan," he said.

a) What is the difference between them?

☐

Number 1 describes what the person said, and number 2 describes what the author said.

☐

Number 1 describes what Zach Aguilar said, and number 2 is the literal speech of the actor.

☐

Number 1 is the literal speech of Zach Aguilar, and number 2 describes what he said.

Grammar Point - Reported Speech And Direct Speech

1) Take a look at these sentences taken from the text:

b) According to the structure of sentence number 1, how is Zach Aguilar's speech introduced?

- ☐ using the relative pronoun THAT.
- ☐ using the noun BBC Newsbeat.
- ☐ modifying the main verb meaning.

c) According to the structure of sentence number 2, how is Zach Aguilar's speech introduced:

- ☐ with a relative clause, using the relative pronoun THAT.
- ☐ with quotation marks [" "]
- ☐ between periods [.]

Grammar Point - Reported Speech And Direct Speech

1) Take a look at these sentences taken from the text:

d) By reading the sentences, we can conclude that:

- ☐ Zach Aguilar's speech in number 1 is direct, and in number 2 it is reported.
- ☐ Zach Aguilar's speech in number 1 is reported, and in number 2 it is direct.
- ☐ Zach Aguilar's speech is reported in both sentences.

Grammar Point - Reported Speech And Direct Speech

DIRECT SPEECH AND REPORTED SPEECH



Direct Speech is used to quote someone's exact words. Check the example:

Tanjiro looks at Nezuko and says:
"You are the best sister in the world"!

Reported Speech is used to say what someone said. Check the example:

Tanjiro looked at Nezuko and said that she was the best sister in the world.



Grammar Point - Reported Speech And Direct Speech

DIRECT SPEECH AND REPORTED SPEECH

In order to transform sentences from Direct Speech to Reported Speech, we need to:

- ★ Use **REPORTING VERBS**, such as **SAY, TELL, SCREAM, IMPLY**, etc.
- ★ Shift the **VERB TENSE** backwards, that is, **Present Tenses** go to **Past Tenses**, for example.

Check the chart to understand it better.



Grammar Point - Reported Speech And Direct Speech

Direct Speech	Reported Speech
Zach Aguilar <u>said, "I'm blown away by the anime film's success."</u> (Present Simple)	Zach Aguilar <u>said he was blown away by the anime film's success.</u> (Past Simple)
Rahul Purini <u>said, "Anime is one of the fastest-growing entertainment sectors."</u> (Present Simple)	Rahul Purini <u>said anime was one of the fastest-growing entertainment sectors.</u> (Past Simple)
Zach Aguilar <u>told us, "It will be so cool to have anime be this mainstream thing."</u> (Future Simple)	Zach Aguilar <u>told us it would be so cool to have anime be a mainstream thing.</u> (Modal WOULD)
Zach Aguilar <u>said: "Infinity Castle has taken more than \$600 million at the box office."</u> (Present Perfect)	Zach Aguilar <u>said Infinity Castle had taken more than \$600 million at the box office.</u> (Past Perfect)