## 5 A FILM REVIEW

# CLASSIC FILMS YOU MUST SEE

PLEASE POST YOUR SUGGESTIONS

### *The Godfather* (1972)

The film *The Godfather* is [1]*based* on the book by Mario Puzo. The film was [2]_____ by Martin Scorsese. It [3]_____ Marlon Brando as Vito Corleone and Al Pacino as his son, Michael. The film won three Oscars in 1973 for Best Actor (Marlon Brando), Best Movie, and Best Screenplay.

The film is [4]_____ in New York in the 1940s and 50s. It was filmed on [5]_____ in New York and in Sicily.

The film is about the Corleone family. Vito, 'The Godfather', is head of one of the most powerful criminal families in America. Don Vito is a fair but ruthless man, who runs his business by doing favours and expecting favours in return. The Corleones get involved in a war with other criminal families, because they don't want to sell drugs. Don Vito is shot and he is seriously injured. While Don Vito is in hospital, control of the family passes to his eldest son, Sonny. Sonny is a hot-head, and with him in charge, the war between the various families becomes more violent. Don Vito's youngest son, Michael, has always stayed outside the family business, but when Don Vito is shot, he returns home to do what he can to help the family. He also takes his revenge against the people who are trying to kill his father. In the end, Sonny is shot and Michael becomes the new Godfather.

I strongly [6]_____ *The Godfather*. It has [7]_____, drama, an unforgettable [8]_____, and an important message: that violence never really solves anything. The two [9]_____, *The Godfather II* and *The Godfather III* are also good, but the first film is definitely my favourite.

**a** Read the film review and complete it with the words in the list.

action based directed location recommend
sequels set soundtrack stars

**b** Read the review again and number the paragraphs in order 1–4.

| | |
|---|---|
| Paragraph ☐ | The plot |
| Paragraph ☐ | The name of the film, the director, the stars, and any prizes it won |
| Paragraph ☐ | Why you recommend the film |
| Paragraph ☐ | Where and when it is set<br>Where it was filmed |

**c** Look at paragraph three again. What tense do we use to tell the story of a film or book?

**d** Have you seen *The Godfather*? If yes, do you agree with the review? If no, does the review make you want to see it?

**Useful language: describing a film**

*It was directed / written by...*
*It is set in...*
*It is based on the book...*
*It's about...*
*It stars...*
*In the end...*
*My favourite scene is...*
*I strongly recommend (the film) because...*

**e** **Write** a film review about a film you would recommend people to buy on DVD or see at the cinema. **Plan** what you are going to write in the four paragraphs. Use the **Useful language** and **Vocabulary Bank** *Cinema p.159* to help you.

**f** **Check** your review for mistakes (grammar, vocabulary, punctuation, and spelling).

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