## Part 5

You are going to read an extract from an interview with a young actor, Peter Rose. For questions **31–36**, choose the answer (**A**, **B**, **C** or **D**) which you think fits best according to the text.

**Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.**

# Interview with a young actor

When I met Peter Rose, the young star of the new hit film, *The Ranger*, despite his striking looks and above average height, he appeared slightly embarrassed when we shook hands. He somehow lacked the confidence that might be expected from someone who is receiving so much praise. He spoke hesitantly, as if reluctant to express a strong opinion and possibly offend someone. Peter's a relatively new face in the acting world. As yet he hasn't had that many leading parts, but he's instantly recognisable. He leaves a lasting impression, even when playing minor parts, and he's skilled at suggesting in small and subtle ways the emotions of the characters he plays.

Peter took up acting as one of his many after-school activities; at the time, he would have said that his heart wasn't entirely in it and that his goal was to become a professional athlete. Aged 12, his natural ability as an actor became apparent when he made his debut in a professional play, but he didn't get carried away as so many other young actors do. Perhaps it was his cautious nature that distinguished him. He was wise enough to grasp how an acting career might develop, and how it might go wrong. As he began appearing in small roles he became increasingly worried about getting sucked into the celebrity rat race.

He took up a place at university with the intention of staying away from acting for a few years, and possibly permanently. 'As the demands of the course increased, I realised that my degree, although relevant and stimulating, wasn't in fact essential. Studying didn't seem to make sense any more. Although I dropped out after one year, college briefly served a purpose, putting my acting on hold and allowing me to reflect on whether I should fully commit to it,' Peter tells me.

His parents weren't too upset when he left college. 'They did suggest that I should do something as a backup, like a business course in case the acting career didn't work out, but both of them took the view that it wasn't an impossible dream,' Peter says. Celebrity continues to make him uneasy and he sends all his film memorabilia to his parents' house. He smiles when he says: 'I assumed all this stuff would go in a box in a cupboard, and only be looked at occasionally, but on a trip back home I discovered that it was all out on display. It's natural for parents to be satisfied when their children do well, but I'd really rather they were less enthusiastic about it.'

Before agreeing to appear in the new film *The Ranger*, Peter went through his customary process of questioning and analysis – in this case, reading the novel on which the film was based to see if the script did it justice. *line 6*
'It felt like the responsible thing to check the quality,' he says. 'I realised that the role was the challenge I'd been waiting for and I believed I had the technical skill.

In the new film, Peter stars alongside the famous actor George Schulman. While on set, did he turn to Schulman for professional advice? 'I wasn't sure that I should bother him with questions when we were filming.' He pauses and then adds: 'I'm yet to be persuaded of the use of looking up to role-models when you're an actor, because imitating the way other people portray characters isn't worthwhile in my view. I appreciated George's willingness to work incredibly hard and to give so much energy and passion to the film. And that's what I think is instructive, rather than any acting tips.'



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**31** The writer says that Peter's performances

- **A** clearly reflect the personality he has.
- **B** have failed to show what he is capable of.
- **C** are memorable whatever the size of the role.
- **D** tend to lack emotional depth.

**32** What does the writer suggest made Peter unusual when he started acting?

- **A** He was aware of the potential difficulties he might encounter.
- **B** He had a natural talent that few young actors possess.
- **C** He was distracted by the possibility of entering another profession.
- **D** He believed he would be unable to achieve lasting success.

**33** How does Peter feel about his time at university?

- **A** annoyed that he wasn't able to learn anything useful
- **B** satisfied that he tried his best to be successful
- **C** guilty that he did not have the right priorities in life
- **D** pleased that it provided an opportunity to think about his future

**34** What does Peter say about his parents' attitude to his career?

- **A** Their advice tends not to be helpful.
- **B** They are keen to help him to protect his privacy.
- **C** They doubt that it is a realistic choice in the long term.
- **D** Their pride is expressed in a way that embarrasses him.

**35** What does the writer mean by the phrase 'if the script did it justice' in line 61?

- **A** if the script was too similar to the book
- **B** if the script was as impressive as the book
- **C** if the script avoided weaknesses in the book
- **D** if the script made more demands than the book

**36** What did Peter feel about working with George Schulman?

- **A** disappointed that he failed to take advice from George
- **B** frustrated at his inability to match George's acting skills
- **C** unconvinced of the value of trying to copy George's style
- **D** surprised at the way in which George treated him during filming

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