Will Smith apologizes to Chris Rock after Oscars slap

31st March, 2022

Actor Will Smith has apologized to comedian Chris Rock for hitting him at the Academy Awards show on Sunday. Mr Smith shocked the audience when he walked onto the stage and slapped Mr Rock around the face. Rock was presenting the Oscars ceremony. He made a "joke" about Smith's wife, Jada Pinkett Smith. The joke was about Ms Smith appearing in an imaginary movie in which the star has no hair. Ms Smith suffers from a hair loss condition called alopecia. This causes many women a lot of stress and a lack of confidence. In Mr Smith's apology, he said: "Jokes at my expense are a part of the job, but a joke about Jada's medical condition was too much for me to bear, and I reacted emotionally."

Forty minutes after the on-stage slapping incident, Will Smith won the Oscar for Best Actor for his role in the movie "King Richard". In the movie, he played the part of the father of tennis superstars Serena and Venus Williams. In his acceptance speech, Mr Smith apologized to the Academy, the attendees at the show and everyone watching around the world, but not to Mr Rock. That apology came a day later. Smith said: "I would like to publicly apologize to you, Chris. I was out of line and I was wrong. I am embarrassed and my actions were not [a sign of] the man I want to be. There is no place for violence in a world of love and kindness." The Academy said it is "investigating" the incident.

Writing

There is no reason for one person to hit another person. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

comedian / Academy Awards / audience / slapped / joke / hair loss / confidence / job Oscar / role / movie / tennis / superstars / apology / wrong / embarrassed / kindness

True / False

1) Will Smith apologized to Chris Rock at the Oscars. T / F
2) Chris Rock made a joke about Will Smith's wife in an imaginary movie. T / F
3) The hair-loss condition alopecia makes many women stressed. T / F
4) Will Smith said the joke was too much for him. T / F
5) Will Smith won an Oscar for his role in the movie "King William". T / F
6) Will Smith apologized to everyone in the world watching the Oscars. T / F
7) Will Smith told Chris Rock that he was in line. T / F
8) The Oscars Academy will take no further action. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

1.	apologizes	a.	part
2.	shocked	b.	illness
3.	slapped	c.	stunned
4.	condition	d.	wrong
5.	bear	e.	event
6.	incident	f.	cope with
7.	role	g.	says sorry
8.	out of line	h.	looking into
9.	violence	i.	smacked
10.	investigating	j.	brutality

Discussion – Student A

a) What do you know about Will Smith?
b) What do you think of the Oscars?
c) What do you think of Mr Smith slapping Mr Rock?
d) What do you think of Mr Rock's bad joke?
e) How would you feel if you lost your hair?
f) Should people make jokes about hair loss?
g) Would you be happy if your partner slapped someone who hurt you?
h) What do you know about Will Smith?

Phrase Match

1. he walked onto the stage and
2. Rock was presenting the
3. hair
4. a lack
5. I reacted
6. That apology came
7. I would like to publicly
8. I was out of line
9. There is no place for violence
10. The Academy said it is "investigating"

a. in a world of love
b. emotionally
c. of confidence
d. apologize to you
e. the incident
f. Oscars ceremony
g. a day later
h. loss
i. and I was wrong
j. slapped Mr Rock

Discussion – Student B

a) What do you think of when you hear the word 'comedian'?
b) What do you think about what you read?
c) What do you know about Chris Rock?
d) Would you like to see the movie 'King Richard'?
e) What's your favorite movie?
f) What do you think of Will Smith as an actor?
g) Is the world a place of love and kindness?
h) Do you think the Academy will take away Will Smith's Oscar?

Spelling

1. presenting the Oscars eymocrne
2. appearing in an ainmygiar movie
3. a lack of ccinonedef
4. Jokes at my espneex
5. a joke about Jada's cilmeda condition
6. I eadrcte emotionally
7. the on-stage slapping ncnideti
8. In his cpatancece speech
9. That opaglyo came a day later
10. I am sdasremearb
11. There is no place for ivlnecoe
12. The Academy said it is tsgnviigantie

Role Play

Role A – Science Fiction
You think science fiction is the best movie genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genre. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): horror, romance or comedy.

Role B – Horror
You think horror is the best movie genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genre. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): science fiction, romance or comedy.

Role C – Romance
You think romance is the best movie genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genre. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): horror, science fiction or comedy.

Role D – Comedy
You think comedy is the best movie genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genre. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): horror, romance or science fiction.

Speaking – Movies

Rank these with your partner. Put the best movie genres at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Biography
- Horror
- Romance
- Action
- Mystery
- Sci-Fi
- Historical
- Comedy