

3.7

WRITING

A film review

1 Put phrases a–g in the correct order.

- a Bill Condon ... / by / Directed Directed by Bill Condon ...
- b was / character / played ... / The / female / skilfully _____
- c fascinating ... / The / is / plot _____
- d me, / word / is ... / the / For / best / describes / this / movie / that _____
- e is / story / The / in ... / set _____
- f for ... / it's / In / view, / my / suitable _____
- g I've / one / seen / ever / It's / of / best / the / films _____

2 Complete gaps 1–4 in the review below with suitable phrases from Exercise 1.

Beautiful or Beastly?

Should you see the remake of Beauty and the Beast?

Beauty and the Beast, starring Emma Watson and Dan Stevens, was released in 2017 and was a big success around the world. a, the live action* musical is based on the original Disney animation. So, should you go and see it?

¹___ a castle in the small town of Villeneuve and follows the main character, Belle, as she tries to save her father from the Beast. The Beast was a selfish prince until a witch cast a spell on him. To break the spell, he must learn to love, and find someone who loves him too. At first, the Beast believes this is impossible. Then he meets Belle, and his opinion starts to change.

²___, the special effects are amazing, and the songs superb. ³___. But, unfortunately, I didn't find the Beast very convincing. I'm also not sure we needed a remake of this classic film.

⁴___ adults, teenagers and children alike. But if you know and love the original version, there is nothing new for you here.

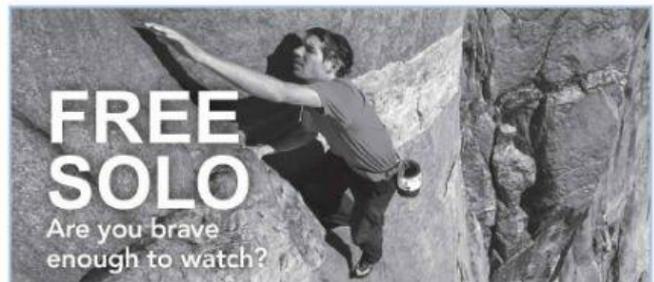
* live action – a film that has real actors and animals instead of animations

3 Match the underlined phrases in the review to the categories below. Then add extra phrases from Exercise 1. Some phrases match more than one category.

- 1 Background information: starring, _____
- 2 Plot: _____
- 3 Acting: _____
- 4 Personal opinion: _____

4 Read the review of the documentary *Free Solo*. Put paragraphs A–D in the correct order.

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____



- A The photography is fantastic and the ¹remake / screenplay holds your attention from beginning to end. Alex is very interesting and at times he is quite funny. The final thirty minutes is probably the most amazing thing I've ever watched on the big ²screen / scene.
- B I don't usually watch documentaries, but *Free Solo* has totally changed my opinion. The film stars American rock climber Alex Honnold as he prepares to climb a 900-metre vertical rock face without using a rope. ³Directed / Starring by Jimmy Chin and Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi, the film was ⁴awarded / based an Oscar for the best documentary in 2018.
- C In my view, *Free Solo* is ⁵a masterpiece / suitable for anyone who has a dream. Alex is one of the most inspiring people I've ever seen, so get up from the sofa and go watch it now!
- D The ⁶screenplay / action takes place in Yosemite National Park and in every ⁶scene / plot we see stunning mountains and fantastic views. At first you think this is a film only about climbing, but there is nothing unsurprising about this film. The ⁷soundtrack / plot also focuses on Alex's life and his relationship with his girlfriend, Sanni. Climbing without a rope is very dangerous, and it's fascinating to hear Alex and Sanni talk about their life together.

5 Read the review in Exercise 4 again. Choose the correct words.

6 Match sentences 1–4 with a–d.

The word that best describes this movie is **amusing**.

- 1 The screenplay is very **engaging**.
- 2 The main character is **inspiring**.
- 3 The soundtrack is **superb**.
- 4 The story was so **predictable**.



- a She has a very successful job and four children.
- b I've listened to it hundreds of times!
- c It holds your attention from beginning to end.
- d I knew who the killer was from the beginning.
- e I was laughing a lot.

7 Find synonyms in the review of *Free Solo* for the words below.

- amusing = funny
- 1 engaging = _____
- 2 superb = _____, _____, _____
- 3 predictable = _____