

FINAL TEST – SENIOR 6



SECTION A: READING COMPREHENSION

- I. You are going to read a newspaper article about mistakes in films. Choose the most suitable heading from the list A-G for each part (1-5) of the article. There is one extra heading which you do not need to use. There is an example at the beginning (0). Then answer *briefly* the questions at the end of the text.

- A. A kind of magic?
- B. A question of time
- C. Beauty above all
- D. Directing a film
- E. Oops! I did it again!
- F. Record-breaking mistakes
- G. The director's choice

HOW DID THAT MAKE THE FINAL CUT?

0

E

In the final scene of *Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl*, Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) calls his pirates back onto the ship while, to the left of the screen is a man in a white t-shirt and sunglasses. Looking out to sea. This is only one of several mistakes in the film where crew or equipment are visible: there are many others which are factual. For example, Port Royal in Jamaica is built on a beach however, in the film set it's built on top of immensely tall cliffs.

2

Maybe the problem is that we're too busy concentrating on the action to pick up on details. For example, in *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, when Indiana Jones is confronted by a cobra in the Well of Souls, did you see the reflection of the snake in the safety glass between it and Harrison Ford? Incidentally, the director of this film, Steven Spielberg, tops of the list of directors likely to make mistakes, with a record of 1148! You begin to wonder if some of them are deliberate – put there to see how willing we are to believe everything we see in the escapist world of the movies. This might explain some of the more obvious goofs in *Die Another Day*, like the one where James Bond's car turns back over during a chase on the ice, and part of the left mirror breaks off. When the car turns back over, the mirror is intact. We also see the heroine, Jinx, being cut across her stomach in the final fight scene. Yet, moments later, her stomach is OK.

1

But this is not the only sea adventure where things are wrong. *Titanic* is said to contain more than 180 mistakes, a number of which are anachronisms. Given that the Titanic sank in 1912, Rose, the heroine, would not have been able to admire Monet's painting 'The Nymphs', which he painted in 1915. And it's impossible for Jack, the hero, to have gone ice fishing on Lake Wissota, as he claims, since this wasn't discovered until 1918. But perhaps only historians would notice these mistakes. The majority of us are more likely to notice continuity mistakes like the one involving First Office William Murdoch: immediately after he has shot himself, in the next scene he is seen trying to untie one of the lifeboats.

3

Of course, we wouldn't want our heroine's beauty to be ruined, would we? This unwritten rule must be the cause of a lot of obvious mistakes. A good example is in the 2005 remake of *King Kong*. The scenes in New York take place in winter, on a day cold enough for the lake in Central Park to freeze and hold King Kong's weight. Yet the heroine shows no hint of cold, even though she's wearing a light summer dress. Kong takes her to the top of the Empire State Building, where it's even colder. Not only does she show no discomfort, but she also climbs a metal ladder, holding on with her bare hands.

But are all directors 'imperfect'? What about revolutionary director Alfred Hitchcock, who was known for being obsessed with detail? Seldom did he start shooting a film that wasn't already planned in his head, so surely his films are error free? Well – no. Take his horror film, *Psycho*: when the heroine, Marion, is leaving town after stealing from her boss, she keeps checking the speedometer of her car, and you can clearly see that the indicator is not moving. And even *Citizen Kane*, regarded by many film fans as one of the best films ever made because of its innovative filmmaking techniques, contains twelve mistakes. One of these is in an outdoor picnic scene: director Orson Welles did not have enough money to film outdoors, so he had to shoot the scene in the studio, using scenes from other films. The scene he used was from *King Kong*, and four pre historic birds can clearly be seen flying by. The studio told Welles to take the birds out of the shot, but he liked them and decided to keep them. How many other errors were left in the film, then, even though the Director was aware of them?

So, when is a mistake not really a mistake? Next time you watch *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, look out for the start of term feast. Harry sits down on the right side of the table, next to Ron. When the food appears, Harry is on the other side of the table, next to Hermione. A mistake, or just Harry showing off his magic powers? I'll leave you to decide: after all, in the world of movies, everything is magical.

1. Name the actor who plays Jack Sparrow in *Pirates of the Caribbean*.

2. Explain why the hero in *Titanic* could not have gone fishing on Lake Wissota.

3. Explain why Steven Spielberg is included in this article.

4. Explain what's wrong with the weather in the remake of *King Kong*.

5. Explain why *Citizen Kane* is such a famous film.

SECTION B: USE OF ENGLISH

- I. Read the article, choose the option which best fits each space and write it in the box. The exercise begins with an example.**

ICELAND: A LAND OF MANY POSSIBILITIES

We (0) ____ to introduce you to some of the basic facts and travel possibilities in Iceland – and reveal a few myths. Whether you're planning to stay a month or drop in on your way to Europe, what you learn (1) ____ surprise you. Iceland is the perfect place for you to (2) ____ from the crazy pace of city life. The first thing you should know about Iceland is that it is nowhere nearly as cold as its name implies. The average January day in Reykjavik is about the same temperature as it is in New York City. It is a mystery why the old Norsemen (3) ____ first came here gave such a name to this green country, but there is an old legend: the first Viking (4) ____ the island wanted to keep it all to himself, so he named the green country "Iceland" and the icy country "Greenland," hoping that future settlers (5) ____ further north.

Though this plan (6) ____, it did not. (7) ____, even today Iceland is still one of the least populated nations on Earth. The electric green landscape is full of wide open spaces and geological wonders: intricately carved mountains, belching mud pools, steaming hot springs, blinding glaciers, heavenly waterfalls (8) ____ hellish volcanoes. And because of the island's endless supply of geothermal energy, pollution is nonexistent.

Many people have heard of Iceland's natural beauty, but one of the island's best kept secrets is its flourishing cultural life. Because of its (9) ___ population, Reykjavik (10) ___ one of Europe's hottest night spots, and the art scene is alive and well. Testifying to the cultural health is an explosion of cafes in downtown Reykjavik. Day or night, winter or summer, they are full with both drinks and people – 99 percent of whom speak English.

0.	'd like	like	liked
1.	might have	might	is
2.	get on	get away	get away with
3.	whose	whom	who
4.	to discover	discovered	would discover
5.	headed	would head	had headed
6.	could work out	could have worked out	worked out
7.	In addition	Although	However
8.	in contrast to	in addition	as well as
9.	narrow-minded	open-minded	stuck-up
10.	has become	had become	will have become

II. Rewrite the following sentences using the beginning provided, both sentences must have the same meaning.

1. "Don't forget to water the plants, Alex," said Mum.

Mum reminded _____

2. "You had better not go out in this weather!" said Kay to Melanie.

Kay advised _____

3. "You haven't done your homework, Jim," said Sandra.

Sandra accused _____

4. Despite being rather old, Mr. Brown is still very energetic.

Mr. Brown is still very energetic although _____

5. Experts report that climate changes are caused by global warming.

Climate changes are reported _____

6. He wouldn't have continued writing if his wife hadn't encouraged him.

He would have given _____

7. I'm sure you forgot to tell Mrs. Burns that you'd be late today.

You must _____

8. Most children do not think documentaries are interesting.

Most children are not interested _____

9. My grandparents' 50th wedding anniversary is on 30th March.

By 30th March my grandparents will _____

10. Our car really needs repairing.

We really should have _____

III. Put the verbs in brackets in the correct form. Use modals if necessary.

Muriel's home was (be) a pleasant three-bedroomed detached house in a suburb of Manchester. The family, consisted (consist) of two girls and a boy, had been raised there. One had already left home, and the day was not far off when the other two would leave (leave) for London to start University.

The house was (be) now fully equipped. The husband's salary as an engineer provided holidays abroad, a new family car, a complete home theatre and entertainment centre, and even two brand new machines.

Life was good until Muriel, returning (return) from a shopping expedition in the city centre, found she had been burgled. It was bad enough that the French windows in the dining room were forced (force) open and £100 in cash in the kitchen drawer stolen; but the damage and vandalism immediately made (make) Muriel twenty years older, inflicting a mental wound even time could not heal (not heal).

The thieves kicked (kick) the plasma TV to pieces, leaving smashed glass and dangling wires. All sofas had been up-ended and the fabric slashed – possibly in the hope that money had been hidden inside. There was a horror in the kitchen. Three goldfish were dead on the floor, their heads stamped and crushed; they were from the family's small aquarium. The actual fish tank had been knocked from its stand and the water had soaked all over the floor of the living room.

It was the same story in each room: devastation, Muriel found she could not sleep (not sleep). The doctor had to prescribe tranquilizers. Ultimately, her husband made the only decision he could. They had to sell and move from the home where they had planned to spend (spend) the rest of their lives.

SECTION C: WRITING

YOU MUST DO BOTH EXERCISE I AND II.

I. Write about 150 words on:

- a) You have decided to enter a short story competition. The competition rules say that the story must begin with the following words: *It could happen to anyone. I had decided to spend the afternoon in the library...* Write your story for the competition.

II. You must write about 150 words on ONE of the following.

- a) Imagine you are on holiday in the USA. Write a letter to a friend comparing the places you have visited and giving him advice on where to go when he goes to the USA next summer. Say how you are enjoying your holiday, what you have done and seen so far, your impressions on the places and your plans for the next few days. Use the information in the brochures below to help you.

SAN FRANCISCO	NEW YORK! NEW YORK!
What will inspire you is the sight of the Golden Gate Bridge soaring across a blue and sunlit sea. Travel on a cable car up to Nob Hill, eat sea food overlooking the bay. Leave your heart in San Francisco.	This city has starred in a million movies and its skyline is the most famous in the world. Don't miss the Metropolitan, Guggenheim and Natural History museums; Greenwich Village, Wall Street and the Statue of Liberty. Shop at Macy's and Gimbels, window-shop at the excellent stores along fifth avenue.

- b) An English School Magazine has been publishing a section called *Modern Life*. You have been asked to write an article for the next series in which you **describe a pop star or celebrity you love and admire**. Write about their **physical appearance, clothes, personal qualities, family background, jobs and interests and achievements**.
- c) A student's magazine has a section called *Now, your turn*. Write a short **article** for the series **about the effect of tourism in your country**. In your article, write about what you believe are the advantages and disadvantages of tourists coming to Argentina.