

## Old Hollywood movie: Carmen Jones, a review



### Use the passive voice (be+ past participle)

Carmen Jones is a musical. It (direct) by Otto Preminger. It (release) in 1954 in the US. It (write) by Harry Kleiner. Although it (base) on Hammerstein's book, it of course (inspire) by Bizet's 1875 Opera: Carmen. In 1992, it (select) for preservation in the United States National Film Registry by the Library of Congress as being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant. Remember, in 1954 many States in the South of the US still (segregate).



African American representation in movies was minimal, stereotypical and never

"normal". Therefore, African American talent and beauty extensively (showcase) through this movie.

### Use the past simple the past continuous (be+ing) or the passive voice.

During World War II, Carmen Jones, a "shameless vixen" (work) in a parachute factory in North Carolina. When she arrested for fighting with a co-worker who reported her for arriving late for work. The leader of the Army guards, Sgt. Brown (assign) the handsome Corporal Joe to deliver her to the civilian authorities over 50 miles away. On the way, he (decide) to take a shortcut. He (drive) when Carmen (suggest) to stop for a romantic meal. He

(refuse ) at first, but soon (convince) by her. She (tell) him that she (love) him. How could she survive in jail? Joe (decide) to escape with her. A great story, full of passion, sorrow, love and betrayal (begin).



**Show and Tell: use the past simple or the past continuous (be+ing) to describe the scene.**

The scene is very warm and colourful. Carmen, played by Dorothy Dandridge (wear) an orange skirt and a black top. She (have) a red rose in her hand. She (sing) a remixed version of Bizet's "L'amour est un oiseau rebelle". She (seem) to be in a cafeteria and everyone (look) at her, they (laugh). Suddenly, at 00:24, she (see) Joe, played by Harry Belafonte. He (order) his lunch whilst she shamelessly (stare) at him. She (get) close to him in a very seductive manner, but he only (look) at

her, (smile) and (go) away. Being ignored like this, she (chuckle) and (continue) her song. She still has a lot of admirers, men and women still (look), still (cheer) for her, but she (seem) obsessed with Joe, who (eat) quietly with his fiancée, the young woman in a pink checkered dress. The later (give) her a nasty look. Yet, Carmen (not care). She (finish) her song, (give) Joe a last smile and (go) to get her lunch. What confidence! Would you have looked at your crush like this?

Comment below!



**Complete with the first or the second form of the conditional.**

If I (be) Carmen, I (stay) away from trouble.

If I (be) Joe, I (leave) my fiancée for Carmen.

If I (smoke) so much, I (not be able to) keep my lipstick on.

If you (sing) like Dorothy Dandridge, you (be able to) be a star

If I (look) as handsome as Joe, I (stay) humble.