

## 2.1 Silver screen

Grammar defining relative clauses

Can do give opinions and agree/disagree

### Speaking and reading

**1** Work in pairs. Look at the photos from the film *Man on Wire*. What do you think the film is about?

**2 a** Read the film review and answer the questions.

- 1 What type of film is it?
- 2 What is the film about?
- 3 Did the critic like the film? Why/Why not?
- 4 Do you think you would enjoy it? Why/Why not?

**b** Read the review again and write true (T) or false (F).

- 1 The World Trade Center had just been completed when Petit decided to do his high wire walk.
- 2 He finally made his walk between the twin towers six years later.
- 3 He was already an experienced high wire walker when he made the crossing at the twin towers.
- 4 Petit and his team managed to get permission to walk between the towers.
- 5 They used a bow and arrow to get the wire across from one tower to the other.
- 6 Petit's team filmed him as he crossed the wire.
- 7 As soon as he saw the policemen waiting he came off the wire and let them arrest him.

## MAN ON WIRE

### A film to make you feel alive ...

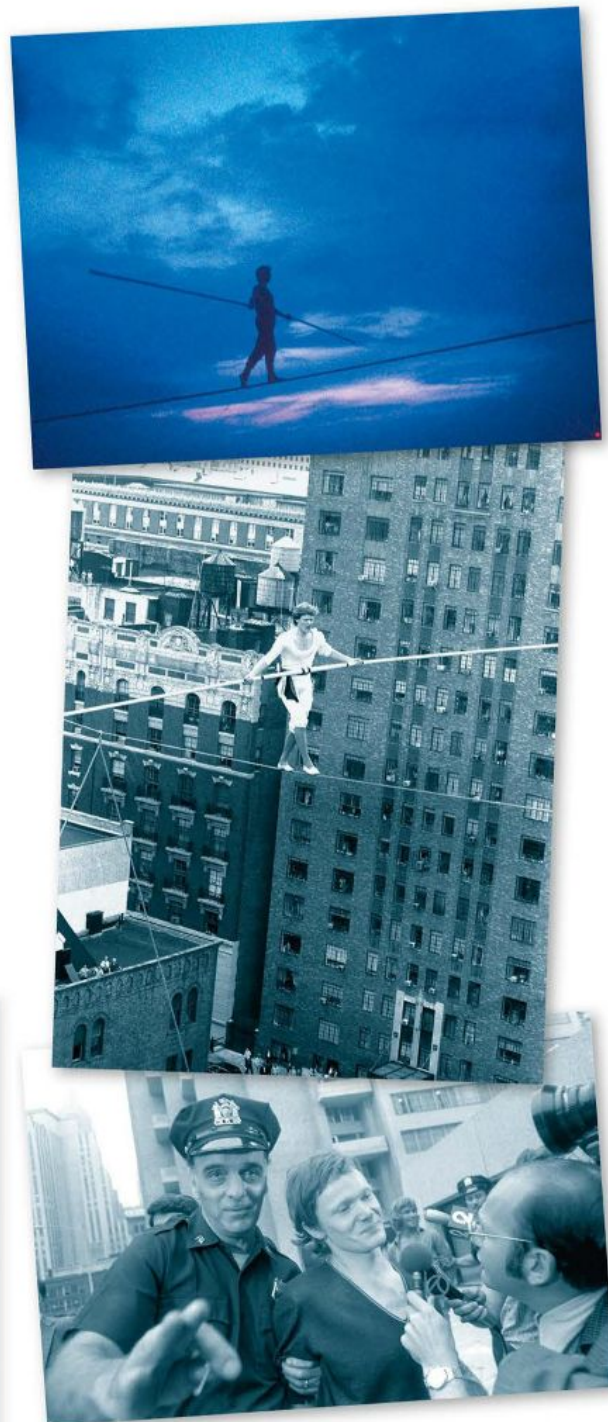
In 1968 a young Frenchman, Philippe Petit, saw a picture in a newspaper which would change his life. He was sitting in a dentist's waiting room when he saw an artist's impression of the soon-to-be-built World Trade Center and decided that one day he would walk on a high wire between the twin towers.

*Man on Wire* is the gripping story of a man who made his dream happen. The film starts on Tuesday August 7th, 1974, the day when Petit finally achieved his goal. We see him heading for the twin towers and then, through interviews and flashbacks, we see everything that led up to that day.

The film first shows us how Petit made his earlier high wire walks at Notre Dame and Sydney Harbour Bridge, using film and photos taken from the time.

Then the film almost becomes a crime thriller as we see how Petit and his team forged documents, got past security guards and somehow managed to set up the wire between the towers without anyone seeing them or hearing anything.

There were hundreds of unforeseen difficulties; not least how to get the wire from the tower where they stood across to the other tower. They finally solved this by shooting it across with a bow and arrow!



Finally Petit makes his great walk between the towers. There is no film of the original walk, so the whole thing is shown using photos that were taken at the time, a poignant reminder of how the towers used to look. He stayed 1,350 feet above the ground, apparently quite relaxed, for 45 minutes. The policemen whose job it was to arrest Petit, could only stand and watch while he smiled and laughed at them.

What Petit did was, of course, actually a crime, but that doesn't seem as important as the fact that it was a fascinating and inspiring adventure. A film to make you feel alive.