

43 Plays and films

A A fabulous play

★★★★★

The Woman in Black is a **fabulous** ghost story. With just a minimal set and few sound effects, this drama will **scare** you to death!

★★★★★

A **superb** adaptation of Susan Hill's **classic** novel. The **tension** is maintained throughout the production, and the **cast** of two are **sensational**! The **applause** went on and on.

★★★★★ The critics have been **unanimous** in their **praise**. A must-see thriller!

GLOSSARY

fabulous	extremely good, excellent SYN sensational , superb	classic	(of a book, play, etc.) one of the best and most important, and having lasting value
ghost story	a story about the spirit of a dead person that sb hears or sees	tension	a feeling of anxiety or stress because you are nervous tense adj
set	the scenery and furniture used in a play, film, etc.	cast (+ sing OR pl verb)	all the people who act in a play or film
sound effects	sounds that are made artificially in a play, film, etc. to make it more realistic, e.g. wind, thunder	applause	the sound of an audience showing approval by hitting their hands together applaud v SYN clapping ; clap v
scare sb to death	make sb very frightened Scared stiff means very scared.	unanimous	agreed by everyone
adaptation	a book or play that has been made into a film, TV programme, etc.	praise	words that show approval of or admiration for sb/sth praise v

- 1 Put the words in the correct column below based on the pronunciation of the underlined letters. Use the **APP** to help you.

fabulous

sensational

scare

adapt

classic

cast

applause

audience

unanimous

praise

ACTOR

PLAY

FAR

HAIR

CAUGHT

THEATRE

- 2 Circle the correct word. Both answers may be possible.

- I didn't like the acting, but I thought the set / cast was good.
- The play was frightening. It scared me to die / death.
- There were great sound affects / effects.
- I thought the play was absolutely superb / sensational.

- The book is a classic / classical.
- The play is an adaption / adaptation from a book.
- Are you keen on ghost / spirit stories?
- Did they applause / applaud at the end?
- These scary stories can create a lot of praise / tension.

- 3 Complete the dialogues.

- Were you frightened?
- Is it based on an original story?
- Was the acting good?
- Did everyone agree?
- Have people liked the play?
- The audience just kept clapping.
- Will we still be reading it in 50 years?
- Were people nervous?

- ~ Yes, I was scared _____.
- ~ No, it's an _____ of a novel.
- ~ Yes, the whole _____ was excellent.
- ~ Yes, the decision was _____.
- ~ Yes, it's had _____ from almost everyone.
- ~ I know. The _____ was incredible.
- ~ Definitely. It's a _____.
- ~ Yes, I felt a bit _____.



TEST YOURSELF

B A disappointing film

- A I went to see the latest **blockbuster** at the local cinema last night. I wasn't **convinced** by it.
- B Me neither. I had quite **high expectations** because the critics seem to like it, but I thought the action **sequences** were **somewhat predictable**, and it just lacked any **originality**.
- A Yes, they were **poor**. I think the worst **aspect**, though, was the **screenplay**, which was not **convincing** at all. And I couldn't hear some of it either – **subtitles** might've helped.

SPOTLIGHT *subtitles and dubbing*

Subtitles translate what is said in a film into a different language; they appear at the bottom of the screen. They are also used to help deaf people. If a film is **dubbed**, the spoken words of the film are replaced by words in another language.

GLOSSARY

blockbuster <i>inf</i>	a very popular and successful film or book
convinced	completely sure about things convincing making sb believe that sth is true
expectation	a hope that sth good will happen: have high/low expectations (of sth); live up to expectations; exceed expectations
sequence	a set of events, actions, etc. which have a particular order and lead to a particular result to some degree SYN rather
somewhat predictable	If sth is predictable , we know in advance that it will happen or what it will be like. OPP unpredictable
originality	the quality of being new and interesting and not seen before
poor	not good; lower in quality than was expected
aspect	a particular part or feature of sth
screenplay	the words that are written for a film and how they are to be acted

4 Underline the stress on these words. Use the to help you.

aspect	expectation	somewhat
blockbuster	screenplay	subtitles
convinced	sequence	unpredictable

5 Yes or No?

- If a film is predictable, do you know what will happen?
- If a film is somewhat long, is it very long?
- Does a sequence always involve more than one?
- If the plot of a film is convincing, is that positive?
- If something exceeds your expectations, is it what you expected?
- Can you go to a screenplay?

6 Complete the sentences.

- I knew what was going to happen at the end. ~ Yes, it was very
- My sister thought the ending was good, but I didn't think it was very
- Did the film live up to your?
- There's a great action in the film involving a car chase.
- The film was OK, but overall I came away feeling disappointed.
- The actors were good, but they were helped by a fabulous
- Some people don't like foreign films with subtitles and prefer it when they are
- In the summer they often show these big at the cinema, largely for kids.

7 Complete the responses, agreeing with the first speaker but without repeating the underlined words.

- The screenplay wasn't good, was it? ~ No, it was
- Was it better than you thought it would be? ~ Yes, it
- I wasn't completely sure about the story. ~ No, I wasn't
- I didn't like that particular feature of the film. ~ No, I didn't like that
- Is the film in the original language? ~ Yes, but it has
- I didn't know what was going to happen. ~ I agree, the ending was very
- The film needed some new and interesting ideas. ~ Yeah, there was no
- I thought the plot was rather confusing. ~ I agree. I found it



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