

Listening

Listen to three short dialogues and answer the questions. Choose **a**, **b** or **c**.

1. Who's Thomas Balding?
 - a. an actor
 - b. a director
 - c. a writer
2. What kind of movie are they watching?
 - a. a historical drama
 - b. a documentary
 - c. a sci-fi movie
3. What didn't they like about the movie?
 - a. the plot
 - b. the soundtrack
 - c. the acting



A. Read the movie review below and answer the following questions.

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A Movie Review *by Zoe Summers*
Ad Astra

Ad Astra (2019) is a fascinating sci-fi movie for anyone who loves adventure and mystery. James Gray directed it and Brad Pitt stars in it as astronaut Roy McBride.

The movie is mostly set in space, in the future. The main character, Roy McBride, is an astronaut who is well known for keeping calm even in the most difficult situations. McBride's father is also a highly respected astronaut, but Roy hasn't heard from him in years. McBride goes on a mission that can help save the universe from a serious threat. Is he going to complete his mission? What is he going to discover about his father?

Sci-fi fans will enjoy the director's vision of the future: tourists can visit the moon, humans live on Mars, and people can travel from planet to planet quite easily. The audience also has the opportunity to admire beautiful scenes of the vast universe, and the special effects are unbelievable. There are some action-packed scenes that are full of suspense, but the movie has its quiet moments too.

What makes *Ad Astra* really special is the wonderful acting. Pitt gives an excellent performance, maybe one of his best ever! The choice of the supporting cast—Tommy Lee Jones, Ruth Negga, Donald Sutherland and Liv Tyler—adds to the movie's success. Finally, the soundtrack is very important too, as it makes the character's (and the audience's) journey through space even more exciting.

Although *Ad Astra* is set far from Earth, it is a movie about what it means to be human. It's a movie worth watching on the big screen, so be sure not to miss it!



B. Read the review again and write
T for **True** or **F** for **False**.

- ? 1. The main character goes on a mission with his father, who is also an astronaut. ☐
- ? 2. In the movie, people can take a trip to the moon. ☐
- ? 3. The writer thinks that Pitt's acting isn't really remarkable. ☐
- ? 4. The writer thinks that the music is a strong point of the movie. ☐
- ? 5. The writer thinks that people shouldn't watch *Ad Astra* in a movie theater. ☐

C. Answer the following questions.

- ? 1. What kind of information is included in the first paragraph?

- ? 2. In which paragraph is the plot of the movie described?

- ? 3. What tense does the writer use to describe the plot?

- ? 4. Does the writer reveal the ending of the movie?

- ? 5. Did the writer like the movie?

- ? 6. In which paragraph does the writer make a recommendation?

- ? 7. Which intensifiers does the writer use in the 3rd and 4th paragraphs?

