

This series of LWSs is based on excerpts from different podcasts where the hosts and the guests talk about Alfred Hitchcock who was a prolific film director.



Can you remember any titles of his movies?

1. A. Listen to the snippet _____

What does the expression "change gears" mean?

What titles can you hear in the snippet?

B. Read the nine short descriptions of Hitchcock's movies and look at the pictures; match the titles with descriptions

- 1) Hitchcock's silent film breakthrough almost sounds like a parody of his later career; a London serial killer hunts blondes and a shifty lodger at a boarding house may be the culprit.
- 2) Following a suspiciously sudden marriage proposal, a young woman becomes the second Mrs de Winter and is swept off to her husband's Cornwall mansion.
- 3) A teenager begins to suspect that her uncle who has come to stay out of the blue is a murderer of rich widows.
- 4) Two students murder a friend and hide his body in a chest just before they host a party in their apartment.
- 5) An unstable rich kid and a rising tennis star meet on a train and agree to each commit a murder in the other's name to avoid suspicion.

Vertigo (1958)



Strangers on a train (1951)



The Lodger: A Story of the London Fog (1927)



North by Northwest (1959)



Shadow of a Doubt (1943)



6) A photographer confined to a wheelchair by a broken leg observes his neighbours from his window and thinks he witnesses a grisly murder.

7) An ex-cop accepts a job to tail a friend's wife and document her erratic behaviour but rapidly loses his grip on reality in the process.

8) An ad man is mistaken for a spy by a sinister group and is pursued across the USA.

9) A wealthy San Francisco socialite pursues a potential boyfriend to a small Northern California town that slowly takes a turn for the bizarre when birds of all kinds suddenly begin to attack people.

Rebecca (1940)



Rope (1948)



The Birds (1963)



The Rear Window 1954



2. What is suspense? Give a definition. Try to unjumble the words. Listen and check. Was your own definition close to that one in the audio? _____

esuyrv _____

vesuriv _____

sunasan _____

stupesc _____

pesusens _____



3. What do you know about Alfred Hitchcock? Can you say you admire him?

Listen to the snippet and fill each gap with 3 words _____.

- 1) If you take _____ out of things, you can't help but admire from this kind of filming point of view _____ a genius.
- 2) And one of the things he really did was _____ of a Director.
- 3) He created series where he was... he was as _____ as parts of these films.
- 4) He wasn't going 'look, I'm _____, I'm really _____.'
- 5) He knows how _____ and story.
- 6) he kind of portrays himself as this slightly _____.

4. Listen to the very short bio of Alfred Hitchcock and fill the gaps with numbers.



He was born in _____ in Leytonstone, England; had a green-grocer father who died when he was _____. He went to a Jesuit school, but he worked to support the family, he became the bread-winner. He spent a great deal of time at the cinema and in _____ was hired as an illustrator when an American film company opened in London. He worked his way up and by _____ was directing his first film receiving

raving reviews almost immediately.

In _____ he married screen editor Alma Reville and they had one child.

In _____ he filmed *The Man Who Knew Too Much* – the first of six consecutive thrillers. In the late _____ s he moved to the United States, almost immediately winning the _____ Best Picture Oscar for *Rebecca*, adapted from Du Maurier, of course.

Daphne Du Maurier



Now, try to fill the gaps with some facts from Hitchcock's bio without looking into the transcript above:



1920 Hitchcock _____

1926 Hitchcock _____

1940 Hitchcock _____

1899 Hitchcock _____

5. Listen to the next snippet and tap out all the facts relatable to Hitchcock _____

had a lot of friends

a fairly solitary childhood

didn't have siblings

so much younger than his siblings

a very corpulent child

very difficult for him to make friends

he was an outsider

he was a leader

he felt very different

lots of quite obsessive hobbies

liked to look at transport timetables



memorized English poetry and recited it at every opportunity
counted cracks in sidewalks
memorized all the bus and tram routes



6. Try to find the correct place for each chunk and phrase, then listen to the snippet and check _____

that experience reverberates for some mishap throughout the course
is instant go back to it and release it unjustly incarcerated

- Was he a good boy?

- He gave very sort of different accounts _____ of his life. But he liked to tell a very famous anecdote over and over again which, he said, really affected him from a very early age.

Or, I have a vague recollection of being scared by a policeman, I think of what when I was about four or five years of age being sent with a note to the local police station, being shut in the cell as a punishment _____ or err... I think I don't even know what it was for. I was probably _____ at the time.

But you see, the psychiatrist will always tell you – if you have a fear that is rooted in your unconscious, something in your childhood, the memory should _____, and all is well. It doesn't apply to me, I'm still scared of the policemen.

- I think it's extraordinary how _____ throughout all his work, throughout all his films, and his fear of authority, the fear of policemen, palpable fear, _____ whatever the truth ever was, certainly had a big effect on his life.

7. Unjumble the part of the questions, then listen to the snippet and answer all of them _____

/into/ what/ Hitchcock/ grow up/ did? _____ ?

/he/ well/ what/deal/with/ didn't/? _____ ?

/prone /what/ was/ to/he/? _____ ?

How old was Hitchcock when his parents left him home alone?

Signs of Binge Eating Disorder



Eating until uncomfortably full



Eating to ease stress and anxiety



Recording weight fluctuation



Consuming excessive amounts of food in short periods



Feeling desperate to control eating and lose weight



Self-disgust, guilt, and depression after binge eating

What day of the week was that?

Where did they go?

What did Hitchcock do after he had woken up?

What did he begin after that?

What were his favourite foods?

8. A. Find the correct place for each noun phrase. Listen and check _____

the forbidden side

a notorious purloiner of eggs

a Catholic school

an innocent look

a Children of the Corn

a lonely fat boy

- Hitchcock was described at the time by the kids in his primary school as being different from the beginning. One of his schoolmates later described him as _____ who smiled and looked at you as if he could see straight through you.

- Oh, Jesus! I mean, that's a movie right there.

- Yeah, he sounds a bit like _____

or something like that.

- Yeah, I was about to say it, it's kinda like that.

- Now, Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock called their son Fred; he hated this name. He also hated his nickname Cocky which he received during his time in _____ . Hitchcock

became _____ from the priest's henhouse on

_____ of the presbytery garden. He loved to steal the eggs and throw them on

the windows of Jesuit residence. When an angry priest ran out demanding to know who'd dirtied

the glass, Cocky offered _____ , glanced at the sky, shrugged and said, " I don't know father, it looks like the birds have been flying over head."

That's how he got the nickname, even to junior voice, of Cocky.

B. Fill the gaps with appropriate forms of the following verbs:

fly

throw

revolt

interest

spill

chirp

break

plan

come





- Now, this eggs story is particularly _____ to me and lined with another Hitchcock quote I found in an article on Telegraph: I'm frightened of eggs, worse than frightened, they revolt me. That white round thing without any holes... have you ever seen anything more _____ than an egg yolk _____ and _____ its yellow liquid? Blood is jolly, red. But egg yolk is yellow, revolting. I've never tasted it.

- Oh, that's cool!
- That's so weird.
- But it's so cool. It's kind of... Like I've never heard of anyone like say that about an egg, it blows my mind actually. What makes him so interesting is his perspective is so strange [Yeah] You know, right there you can see it.
- he's clearly _____ at the world from a different angle than everybody else's. Even his lie... Like a normal kid would like 'someone else was _____ eggs at the priest's house', he was like 'no-no-no, the birds were _____ over head and they...' He blamed it on the birds even like aged twelve.
- He didn't like birds back then.
- No, no. Never liked birds. I agree with him on that.
- I kinda don't trust them either.
- No, they are shifty.
- Cause you can't know what they're saying.
- No, and they're definitely _____ something.
- Oh, all that _____ ! It's like a plot.
- He tried to warn us.



Listen and check _____

9. Read out the jobs and explain what each of them deals with. Listen to the clip and tap out all the jobs you can hear _____



a screenwriter

a prop man

a film director

a draftsman

a make-up artist

a film editor

an advertising designer

a title card designer

a writer

a lighting technician

a graphic artist

an assistant director