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Check Your English

Vocabulary

1

Complete the texts with the words from the box.

stars, special effects, science fiction thriller, minds, succeeded, photography, movies, filmed, directed, powerful, true

The Matrix



Schindler's List



One of my favourite films of all time is *The Matrix*. The film is a ..., which has a very complicated storyline. It ... Keanu Reeves who plays a computer expert called Neo. Neo finds out that his world has been taken over by intelligent machines. *The Matrix* is a computer programme created by the machines, which they use to control people's Neo and two other rebels (called Morpheus and Trinity) set out to try to destroy *the Matrix*. What I like most about the film is the photography and the These are really amazing and make it look like a computer game.

Schindler's List is one of the best ... I have ever seen. It was ... by Steven Spielberg. It tells the story of a man called Oskar Schindler who owned a factory in Nazi Germany. He ... in saving the lives of thousands of Jews by giving them jobs in his factory. It is an extremely ... movie, and is based on a ... story. One of the things I like most about the movie is the ... because it was made almost entirely in black and white. This makes it seem very real, even though it was ... 50 years after the events actually happened.

Grammar

2 Put the verbs in brackets into the appropriate participle forms to complete the description.

Look at the picture ... (paint) by a young artist. The lady ... (stand) on the bank of the river has two children — a boy ... (play) with a dog and girl ... (follow) her mother. It is a warm summer day. We see some boats ... (sail) down the river. ... (come) in the morning, they have been staying here for some hours. They are enjoying themselves. We see a happy family, which is in harmony with nature. Would you like to join them?

Listening

3 Listen to the conversation and complete the sentences.

One of two men saw a film that was ...	The producer makes ...
The film was on at ...	The director is ...
There was a special attraction that night: ...	The cast was ...
Judy Davis is ...	His wife and he sat in ...
The review of the film is ...	Except the film there was a ...

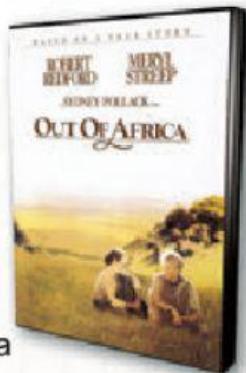
Reading

4 Read short reviews and answer the questions after them.

A OUT OF AFRICA

This film was nominated for 11 Oscars and it won seven. It's about a Danish writer (Meryl Streep) who goes to Africa to help her husband run a coffee plantation. To her surprise, she finds herself falling in love with the country, the people and a mysterious white hunter (Robert Redford). The film is based on an autobiographical novel by the Danish writer, Isak Dinesen, and was directed by the American director Sydney Pollack.

The story is set in Africa in 1914 and was shot on location in the Masai Mara National Park. Apart from the actors, the 'stars' of the film are a



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breathtaking scenery and a exotic wildlife, which look so wonderful on the big screen. The film also has an unforgettable soundtrack guaranteed to move even the most unromantic people.

B THE LORD OF THE RINGS

This trilogy of films won a total of 17 Oscars, including the *Best Picture* and the *Best Director*.

They are based on the books written by JRR Tolkien. They tell the story of a hobbit, Frodo Baggins, who has to try and destroy a magic ring in order to defeat the evil forces of the dark Lord Sauron. He is helped on his journey by a group of friends.

The story is set in an imaginary land called Middle Earth. All three films were filmed in New Zealand, which was chosen because of its magnificent and dramatic scenery. The director of the film, Peter Jackson, was born there. The success of the films has attracted thousands of tourists to the country, and last year it was voted the most popular holiday destination by UK travellers.

Which film (A or B) ...?

- 1 had three parts
- 2 was based on a book
- 3 was filmed in a wildlife park
- 4 was set at the beginning of the 20th century
- 5 was a romantic film
- 6 was directed by a man born in New Zealand
- 7 won more Oscars



I CAN ...

- read and understand texts about visual arts
- listen to and understand info about films and paintings
- talk about theatre performances and films
- describe a painting
- discuss the influence of art on people
- understand and use the Participles
- write a film review