



You are going to read about the movie Ali .These words appear in the text .Look up the words you don't know in your Glossary and write their meanings in the boxes.

<b>word</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
Become	
Challenge	
Decided	
director	
Get into shape	
Hope	
muscle	
Play the part	
scared	
spend	
Succeed	
The same	
train	
trainer	
Weightlifting	
wrong	

**READ** the **Fact Files** about Will Smith, the actor and Muhammad Ali, the boxer.

**WHAT** are the differences between them?

**FACT FILE**

**Will Smith**

Profession: actor and  
musician



Height: 1.90 meters

Weight: 87 kilos

Year of Birth: 1968

His dream: to be a great movie star

**FACT FILE**

**Muhammad Ali**

Profession: boxer



Height: 1.90 meters

Weight: 95 kilos

Year of Birth: 1942

His dream: to be the greatest boxer  
of all time

أي جملة تعتقد أنها صحيحة حسب ملف المعلومات

**True / false**

1. Muhammad Ali had bigger muscles than Will Smith.

2. Will Smith worked very hard to get into shape for the movie Ali.

3. Will Smith had to spend lots of money to be like Muhammad Ali.

4. Will Smith decided to do this but it was a big challenge.

5. Will Smith did not succeed in becoming Muhammad Ali.

**D**

Now read the article and see if you were correct.

# MAKING A MOVIE

## From Fresh Prince to Muhammad Ali

In 1994 Will Smith was asked to play the part of Muhammad Ali in a movie about Ali's life. For six years he said 'no' to doing this movie. How could he become Muhammad Ali? He didn't see how he could go from Will Smith, a rich teenager in a TV series (Fresh Prince of Bel-Air), to Muhammad Ali. In fact, when Will met Muhammad Ali, he said that he didn't want to be that guy. He was sure that he would *mess up* the Muhammad Ali story. Most people thought he might not succeed in the movie. They said, "Will Smith isn't a boxer. He will not be able to play that part." But in 2001 the movie came out and Will *proved* all those people wrong.

### 10 Training Hard

Will Smith had to spend millions of dollars to make himself "become" Muhammad Ali. He had to train very hard and put on 35 pounds (15.9 kilograms) of muscle. Will's director decided that Will had to have the same trainer as Muhammad Ali. That's when Angelo Dundee, Ali's trainer, came into the picture. Will had a lot of work to do to become Muhammad Ali. He trained for 12 months to get into shape for the movie. He trained by boxing, jumping ropes, running and weightlifting. He had to run the way Muhammad Ali ran, in the same cities and on the same *routes*. He also had to eat the same food that Ali ate.

### Meeting the Challenge

Will's trainer wanted Will to feel what it was like to be in a *boxing ring*. He said, "When that bell rings, and you know that there's an animal on the other side of that ring that wants nothing more than to *tear your head off*, then you will begin to understand Muhammad Ali." Will started to believe that he could do it, that he could tell the Muhammad Ali story in the movie. He was scared, but it was important for him to tell this story. It was a challenge for him to become the greatest fighter in the world. He said, "My hope is that people will get from the film what I got from it."

הירוס / يشوش تماماً  
mess up  
proved / أثبتت  
routes / مسلوليم / مسارات

זירת אינרכו / ساحة الملاكمة  
boxing ring  
להויזד לך את הראש / أن يقطع رأسك  
tear your head off



Answer the questions about the text :

- 1- WHY was Will Smith scared to play the part of Muhammad Ali?



