

Task Two: Scan Reading (10 minutes) – Questions 7-13

You will read four texts about films.

- Read the texts and decide if the information is in text A, B, C or D.
- Place a ☐ in the appropriate box on your Answer Sheet.

Example:

This film won a prize.

The correct answer is: **A**.

**Information to Find**

This film...

- 7 is based on real events.
- 8 features people travelling with animals.
- 9 is based on a book.
- 10 features a well-known TV actor.
- 11 features an intelligent leader..
- 12 is reviewed by someone who recognises characters similar to those he knew as a child.
- 13 features someone who tries to murder someone else.

Film A: Runaway

This award-winning film is one of the best comedies I have ever seen. The story was taken from the book *Run, Run, Run*, but is actually nothing like the original. The story is about four London bank robbers, one of whom has been captured after a daring robbery from a high-security national bank. Annie Hunter is wonderful as the female brains behind the gang and Johnny Jonson's performance as the British-hating American of the group, is hysterically funny. Lastly, Martin Peters plays a stuttering coward who spends most of the film attempting to kill the only person to have seen the robbery, but with chaotic results. A truly black comedy with plenty of moments that will have you crying with laughter, *Runaway* is a film I'd recommend to anyone.

Film B: The Boss

A really beautifully made Western, adapted from the long running television show, the film is about two main characters: The boss (John Whitaker) and his ex-army hired help, Charley (Dan Cole). They live a simple life, moving from place to place with a herd of cattle. When someone tries to take over their business, they confront him and the film is mostly about solving this problem. There is also a weak attempt at romance between Charley and Sue (Helen Adams), the local doctor's sister, but it doesn't fit well into the rest of the film. The best part, surprisingly, is the gunfight. The whole scene is masterful, exploring Charley's understanding of how men react under pressure. This film is a welcome change from so many childish, special effects, action-films which are so popular.

Film C: Long Time Coming

A film that I have always loved; this is one of the few good adaptations of a Simon Strong novel. It is faithful to the original and is just as interesting. Jerry McNeil, now famous in the television show *Sirens*, George Nix, Davy Spelman and Will Rivers play youngsters growing up in the late 1950's. With excellent performances by the young actors, the film has an air of nostalgia about it, leading up to the final tragic moments involving a train accident. It is a great story about growing up in a world of mysteries. This is one of those films that moves me emotionally no matter how often I see it. I really enjoy the nostalgic atmosphere of the film, especially as I remember kids like these from when I was growing up.

Film D: Flyboys

The film is inspired by the true story of American aircraft fighting against the Germans in World War I. A group of Americans arrives for training, each with something to prove. One of them meets a pretty girl, and even though they don't speak the same language they fall in love. This film has a great deal of battle violence. Many characters are killed. Soldiers and civilians, including women and children, are shown in desperate situations. Characters drink, smoke and use strong language. There are also references to the racism of those days. People who see this film should talk about what led these men to fight for another country. They should also talk about the origins of the First World War and why the hopes that it would be the 'war to end all wars' were not realised.