

# 43 Plays and films

## A A fabulous play

★★★★★

*The Woman in Black* is a **fabulous** ghost story. With just a minimal set and few sound effects, this drama will **scare** you to death!

★★★★★

A **superb** adaptation of Susan Hill's **classic** novel. The **tension** is maintained throughout the production, and the **cast** of two are **sensational**! The **applause** went on and on.

★★★★★ The critics have been **unanimous** in their **praise**. A must-see thriller!

### GLOSSARY

<b>fabulous</b>	extremely good, excellent SYN <b>sensational</b> , <b>superb</b>	<b>classic</b>	(of a book, play, etc.) one of the best and most important, and having lasting value
<b>ghost story</b>	a story about the spirit of a dead person that sb hears or sees	<b>tension</b>	a feeling of anxiety or stress because you are nervous <b>tense</b> adj
<b>set</b>	the scenery and furniture used in a play, film, etc.	<b>cast</b> (+ sing OR pl verb)	all the people who act in a play or film
<b>sound effects</b>	sounds that are made artificially in a play, film, etc. to make it more realistic, e.g. wind, thunder	<b>applause</b>	the sound of an audience showing approval by hitting their hands together <b>applaud</b> v SYN <b>clapping</b> ; <b>clap</b> v
<b>scare sb to death</b>	make sb very frightened <b>Scared stiff</b> means very scared.	<b>unanimous</b>	agreed by everyone
<b>adaptation</b>	a book or play that has been made into a film, TV programme, etc.	<b>praise</b>	words that show approval of or admiration for sb/sth <b>praise</b> v

- 1 Put the words in the correct column below based on the pronunciation of the underlined letters. Use the APP to help you.

fabulous

sensational

scare

adapt

classic

cast

applause

audience

unanimous

praise

ACTOR

PLAY

FAR

HAIR

CAUGHT

THEATRE

- 2 Circle the correct word. Both answers may be possible.

- I didn't like the acting, but I thought the set / cast was good.
- The play was frightening. It scared me to die / death.
- There were great sound affects / effects.
- I thought the play was absolutely superb / sensational.

- The book is a classic / classical.
- The play is an adaption / adaptation from a book.
- Are you keen on ghost / spirit stories?
- Did they applause / applaud at the end?
- These scary stories can create a lot of praise / tension.

- 3 Complete the dialogues.

- Were you frightened?
- Is it based on an original story?
- Was the acting good?
- Did everyone agree?
- Have people liked the play?
- The audience just kept clapping.
- Will we still be reading it in 50 years?
- Were people nervous?

- ~ Yes, I was scared \_\_\_\_\_.
- ~ No, it's an \_\_\_\_\_ of a novel.
- ~ Yes, the whole \_\_\_\_\_ was excellent.
- ~ Yes, the decision was \_\_\_\_\_.
- ~ Yes, it's had \_\_\_\_\_ from almost everyone.
- ~ I know. The \_\_\_\_\_ was incredible.
- ~ Definitely. It's a \_\_\_\_\_.
- ~ Yes, I felt a bit \_\_\_\_\_.



TEST YOURSELF



## B A disappointing film

- A I went to see the latest **blockbuster** at the local cinema last night. I wasn't **convinced** by it.
- B Me neither. I had quite **high expectations** because the critics seem to like it, but I thought the action **sequences** were **somewhat predictable**, and it just lacked any **originality**.
- A Yes, they were **poor**. I think the worst **aspect**, though, was the **screenplay**, which was not **convincing** at all. And I couldn't hear some of it either – **subtitles** might've helped.

### SPOTLIGHT *subtitles and dubbing*

**Subtitles** translate what is said in a film into a different language; they appear at the bottom of the screen. They are also used to help deaf people. If a film is **dubbed**, the spoken words of the film are replaced by words in another language.

### GLOSSARY

<b>blockbuster</b> <i>inf</i>	a very popular and successful film or book
<b>convinced</b>	completely sure about things <b>convincing</b> making sb believe that sth is true
<b>expectation</b>	a hope that sth good will happen: <b>have high/low expectations (of sth)</b> ; <b>live up to expectations</b> ; <b>exceed expectations</b>
<b>sequence</b>	a set of events, actions, etc. which have a particular order and lead to a particular result to some degree <b>SYN rather</b>
<b>somewhat predictable</b>	If sth is <b>predictable</b> , we know in advance that it will happen or what it will be like. <b>OPP unpredictable</b>
<b>originality</b>	the quality of being new and interesting and not seen before
<b>poor</b>	not good; lower in quality than was expected
<b>aspect</b>	a particular part or feature of sth
<b>screenplay</b>	the words that are written for a film and how they are to be acted

### 4 Underline the stress on these words. Use the to help you.

aspect	expectation	somewhat
blockbuster	screenplay	subtitles
convinced	sequence	unpredictable

### 5 Yes or No?

- If a film is predictable, do you know what will happen? .....
- If a film is somewhat long, is it very long? .....
- Does a sequence always involve more than one? .....
- If the plot of a film is convincing, is that positive? .....
- If something exceeds your expectations, is it what you expected? .....
- Can you go to a screenplay? .....

### 6 Complete the sentences.

- I knew what was going to happen at the end. ~ Yes, it was very .....
- My sister thought the ending was good, but I didn't think it was very .....
- Did the film live up to your .....?
- There's a great action ..... in the film involving a car chase.
- The film was OK, but overall I came away feeling ..... disappointed.
- The actors were good, but they were helped by a fabulous .....
- Some people don't like foreign films with subtitles and prefer it when they are .....
- In the summer they often show these big ..... at the cinema, largely for kids.

### 7 Complete the responses, agreeing with the first speaker but without repeating the underlined words.

- The screenplay wasn't good, was it? ~ No, it was .....
- Was it better than you thought it would be? ~ Yes, it .....
- I wasn't completely sure about the story. ~ No, I wasn't .....
- I didn't like that particular feature of the film. ~ No, I didn't like that .....
- Is the film in the original language? ~ Yes, but it has .....
- I didn't know what was going to happen. ~ I agree, the ending was very .....
- The film needed some new and interesting ideas. ~ Yeah, there was no .....
- I thought the plot was rather confusing. ~ I agree. I found it .....



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