

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 **Atension** 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

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

1 Put the words in the correct column below based on the pronunciation of the underlined letters.

Use the 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?
~ Yes, I was scared
- Is it based on an original story?
~ No, it's an of a novel.
- Was the acting good?
~ Yes, the whole was excellent.
- Did everyone agree?
~ Yes, the decision was
- Have people liked the play?
~ Yes, it's had from almost everyone .
- The audience just kept clapping.
~ I know. The was incredible.
- Will we still be reading it in 50 years?
~ Definitely. It's a
- Were people nervous?
~ Yes, I felt a bit



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

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

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

6 Complete the sentences.

- 1 I knew what was going to happen at the end. ~ Yes, it was very
- 2 My sister thought the ending was good, but I didn't think it was very
- 3 Did the film live up to your ?
- 4 There's a great action in the film involving a car chase.
- 5 The film was OK, but overall I came away feeling disappointed.
- 6 The actors were good, but they were helped by a fabulous
- 7 Some people don't like foreign films with subtitles and prefer it when they are
- 8 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.

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



TEST YOURSELF