

WORDS IN THE NEWS

Teacher's pack



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LEARNING ENGLISH



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Words in the News

Oscar nominations announced – 1 February 2006

(story link: http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/newsenglish/witn/2006/01/060201_oscars.shtml)

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Words in the News – Oscar nominations announced – 1 February 2006 – Intermediate Reading Skills
 Core materials Lesson Plan

	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
P R E R E A D I N G T E X T		5	<p>Generate interest about today's topic by asking students to match the directors - Steven Spielberg and Ang Lee – with the films they've made.</p> <p>Answers:</p> <p>Steven Spielberg: ET Star Wars Munich Sense and Sensibility</p> <p>Ang Lee: Jaws Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon Brokeback Mountain</p>	ET Hulk Star Wars Munich Brokeback Mountain Sense and Sensibility Jaws Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon
	Pre-teach essential vocabulary	10	<p>Elicit/present key vocabulary that students need either to understand the key points in the text or to understand and/or answer any questions that you'll set them later in the lesson.</p> <p>The vocabulary is from Words in the News (so you can elicit the vocabulary by using the explanations provided online or below).</p> <p>You could either pre-teach the vocabulary at this stage of the lesson or you could use the vocabulary building activity from further down in this lesson plan.</p> <p>Have students working in small groups together and ask them to try to match the vocabulary with the definitions. Encourage them to work with the other groups to pool their knowledge.</p> <p>When they have done as much as they can, if they have dictionaries, ask them to look up the words to check their answers and to find out the definitions of any words they were not sure of. If they don't have dictionaries, check their answers</p>	



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		<p>and give them help with any words they aren't sure of. Whichever method you use to elicit/present the vocabulary, you should then model it (say it clearly, highlighting the word stress) and get them to repeat the words after you.</p> <p>a big winner the film which gets the most prizes (for example, Oscars)</p> <p>a highly controversial drama a film that is causing a lot of disagreement</p> <p>a nomination a film that is chosen for a competition</p> <p>to be set primarily in recent history to have the time of a film be mostly about the past but not a long time ago in the past</p> <p>to lead the field to have the most possible Oscars. To be the one at the front of a race or competition</p> <p>a supporting actor a performer who is not the main character</p>	<p>Written record</p> <p>a big winner</p> <p>a highly controversial drama</p> <p>a nomination</p> <p>to be set primarily in recent history</p> <p>to lead the field</p> <p>a supporting actor</p> <p>an independent movie</p> <p>a big studio</p>

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Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
		<p>an independent movie a film that is made by a small company or individual</p> <p>a big studio a large corporation that finances movies</p> <p>to favour intelligent movies with well-crafted scripts on meaty topics to like well-written films on big, important or complicated subjects</p> <p>a tough thriller an exciting film often about solving a crime</p> <p>Additional vocabulary: a front runner the person in the first position in a race</p>	<p>to favour intelligent movies with well-crafted scripts on meaty topics</p> <p>a tough thriller</p> <p>a front runner</p>



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Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
Written record	5 - 10	<p>Write the words on the board, eliciting spelling as you write. Elicit and show the word stress of each item and word class, if appropriate.</p> <p>Give students some time to copy your boardwork into their notebooks.</p>	
Set a scanning question. Students read text the first time		<p>Tell the students they are going to read a story titled 'Oscar nominations announced'. Give them a time limit (1 - 2 minutes) to read the text quickly to find the answer to the question on the board:</p> <p>How many of Spielberg's and Lee's films are mentioned in the text?</p>	How many of Spielberg's and Lee's films are mentioned in the text?
Check answer	2 - 3	<p>Elicit students' answers and write the correct answer (2) on the board.</p> <p>'Munich' and 'Brokeback Mountain' are mentioned in paragraph 1 and 'Brokeback Mountain' is mentioned in paragraph 2.</p>	How many of Spielberg's and Lee's films are mentioned in the text? 2
Set specific information questions	5	<p>Use worksheet A or the online quiz to help students understand the text in more detail.</p> <p>Give students a time limit (5 - 6 minutes) to read the text again in more detail and to answer the questions.</p>	



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	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
	Check specific information answers	2	Elicit answers True or False. Direct attention to a particular paragraph if an answer is wrong to try to elicit correct answer (see worksheet A and answer key).	
	Vocabulary consolidation/building	5	Before the lesson, make enough copies of worksheet B so that there is 1 worksheet for every 4 – 5 students. Cut up the vocabulary and explanations. In class tell students to match the correct word with the right definition.	
	Check answers	2	Elicit answers. If an answer is wrong, ask other students to try to elicit correct answer.	
Total Time Approx		45 mins		



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	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
	Grammar focus	5 - 10	Use worksheet C to focus on words that go together with 'play', 'make' or 'do'. Tell students to put the words into the correct column depending on which verb is used with each word/s.	
	Check answers	3	If an answer is wrong, ask other students to try to elicit correct answer. (see worksheet C and answer key)	
	Follow-up activity: writing	15	Tell students there are going to be radio reporters filing a report about Oscar night. With the whole class, brainstorm what information they are going to include in their reports (for example, who is there, what films and/or actors are attending the ceremony, what the stars are wearing, who the winners are etc.). Put the students into pairs and get them to work together to produce a report of 100 – 150 words. They should choose where they are reporting from (beside the red-carpet, during the ceremony, when it's all over, or the next day) and who their audience is (do they work for a young radio station, a local station, the World Service etc?). Give them 3 – 4 minutes to brainstorm and 10 minutes to prepare their reports Circulate, while they are working, giving help with grammar and spelling, if necessary.	
	Feedback		If possible, display the finished reports around the room and/or ask some of the students to read their reports to the class.	



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			<p>Give praise for content (for example, who wrote in the style of a radio report). Give praise for correct examples you read. Give feedback on incorrect examples you read. Elicit corrections.</p>	<p>Examples:</p> <p>She's looking absolutely stunning in a dress of red silk and lace. (ü)</p> <p>She can't believe she don't win. (0)</p>
Total time		30		



Words in the News – Worksheet A – Specific information questions

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Are the following questions true or false? Read the text again and circle the correct answer:

1.	Vincent Dowd thinks that Spielberg and Lee will probably win Oscars for their films this year.	T/F
2.	Everybody agrees with Spielberg's interpretation of events in his film 'Munich'.	T/F
3.	All of the films nominated for Best Picture this year are stories about life in the 21 century.	T/F
4.	'Brokeback Mountain' is the front-runner, with the most nominations.	T/F
5.	The people who vote for the Oscars prefer light-hearted films over intellectual films about complicated topics.	T/F
6.	'Tsotsi' is science fiction film from South Africa.	T/F

This quiz is available online. Go to:

(story link: http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/newsenglish/witn/2006/01/060201_oscars.shtml)

at the bottom of the page (Words in the News), follow the link [Do a comprehension test about this story](#)



Words in the News – Worksheet B – Vocabulary building

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Cut up the following vocabulary items. Ask students to match them correctly with the definitions.

1.	a big winner
2.	a highly controversial drama
3.	a nomination
4.	to be set primarily in recent history
5.	to lead the field
6.	a supporting actor
7.	an independent movie
8.	a big studio
9.	to favour intelligent movies with well-crafted scripts on meaty topics
10.	a tough thriller
11.	a front runner



Words in the News – Worksheet B - Vocabulary building

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Cut up the following definitions. Ask students to match them correctly with the vocabulary items.

A.	a film that is chosen for a competition
B.	the film which gets the most prizes (for example, Oscars)
C.	the person in the first position in a race
D.	to like well-written films on big, important or complicated subjects
E.	to have the most possible Oscars. To be the one at the front of a race or competition
F.	a film that is made by a small company or individual
G.	a film that is causing a lot of disagreement
H.	an exciting film often about solving a crime
I.	to have the time of a film be mostly about the past but not a long time ago in the past
J.	a performer who is not the main character
K.	a large corporation that finances movies



Words in the News – Worksheet C - Prepositions

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Play, make and do

Part of today's text is about an actor, Heath Ledger, who **plays a part in a film which is made in the USA**. Before he **go** on set, he **has to do his make-up** (or more likely have someone else **do his make-up** for him).

Put these words into the correct column depending on if they are used with **play**, **make** or **do**:

a part	a film	his make-up	up
football	the fool	a cake	the dishes
the piano	love	her hair	the ironing
nothing	something	cards	a fuss
the stock market	an excuse	an arrangement	something
your best	chess		

play	make	do
1. a part	1. a film	1. his make-up
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.
4.	4.	4.
5.	5.	5.
6.	6.	6.
7.	7.	7.



Words in the News – Answer key

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Answers

Worksheet A		Worksheet B														
1. True - Paragraph 1 says "Steven Spielberg's 'Munich' and Ang Lee's 'Brokeback Mountain' are likely to be the big winners at the Oscars ceremony."	2. False - Paragraph 1 says "Spielberg's highly controversial drama about the 1972 Olympic massacre, and what happens after it".	3. False – Paragraph 2 says "'Crash' ... the only one of the nominees not set primarily in recent history."	4. True – Paragraph 2 says "'Brokeback Mountain' leads the field overall with eight nominations".	5. False – Paragraph 3 says "The Oscar voters have shown they favour intelligent movies with well-crafted scripts on meaty topics."	6. False – Paragraph 4 says "the South African film 'Tsotsi', a tough thriller set in Johannesburg."	1. B	2. G	3. A	4. I	5. E	6. J	7. F	8. K	9. D	10. H	11. C

Worksheet C

Play	Make	Do
1. a part	1. a film	1. his make-up
2. football	2. up	2. the dishes
3. the fool	3. a cake	3. her hair
4. the piano	4. love	4. the ironing
5. cards	5. a fuss	5. nothing
6. the stock market	6. an excuse	6. something
7. chess	7. an arrangement	7. your best

