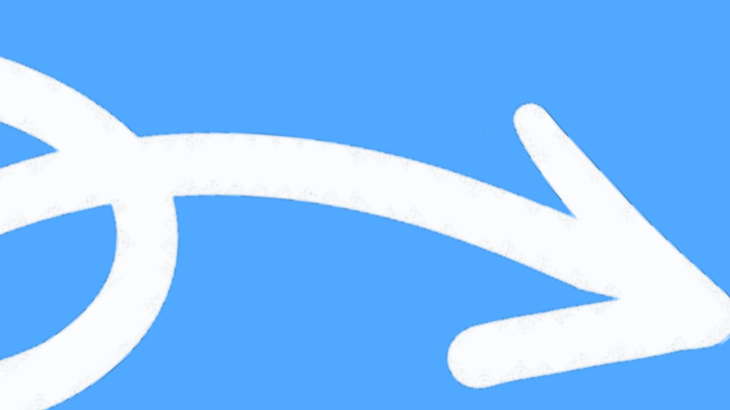


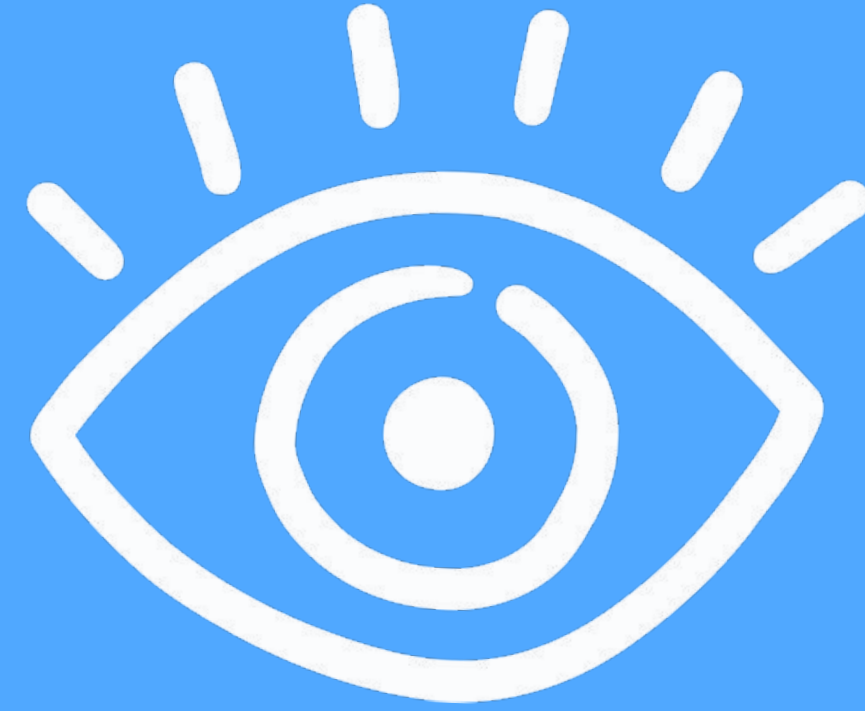


**PT.1: EVERYDAY ENGLISH -
BEFORE WE MOVE ON**

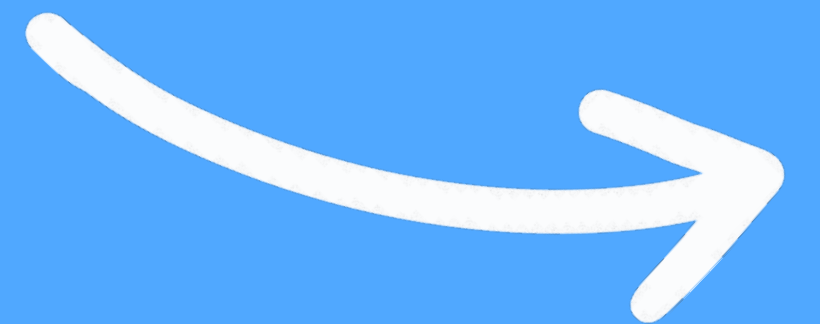


**PT.2: SKILLS FOR WRITING -
THE FILM IS A VISUAL FEAST**

OBJECTIVES



1. Learn to take turns in a formal interview.
2. Be concise when writing a film review.



**100 - EVERYDAY
ENGLISH**

1 LISTENING

- a  Look at picture a below. Who do you think is calling Max?



b  **10.17** Watch or listen to Part 1. What are the two main reasons for Nadia's call?

c  **10.17** Watch or listen to Part 1 again and answer these questions.

- 1 Why does Max say that Nadia's 'got a nerve'?
- 2 What does Nadia say Sara *wasn't* doing?
- 3 What word does Nadia use to describe the potential interview? What does it mean?

b) To talk about leaked call + to ask about coming in for a potential interview.

c) 1: He's upset about the leak.

c) 2: Idle gossip

c) 3: Refreshing



LISTENING

d  Look at picture b. Why do you think Max changed his mind about doing the interview?





e  **10.18** Watch or listen to Part 2 and put the things in the order they're mentioned.

a ☐ Max's father

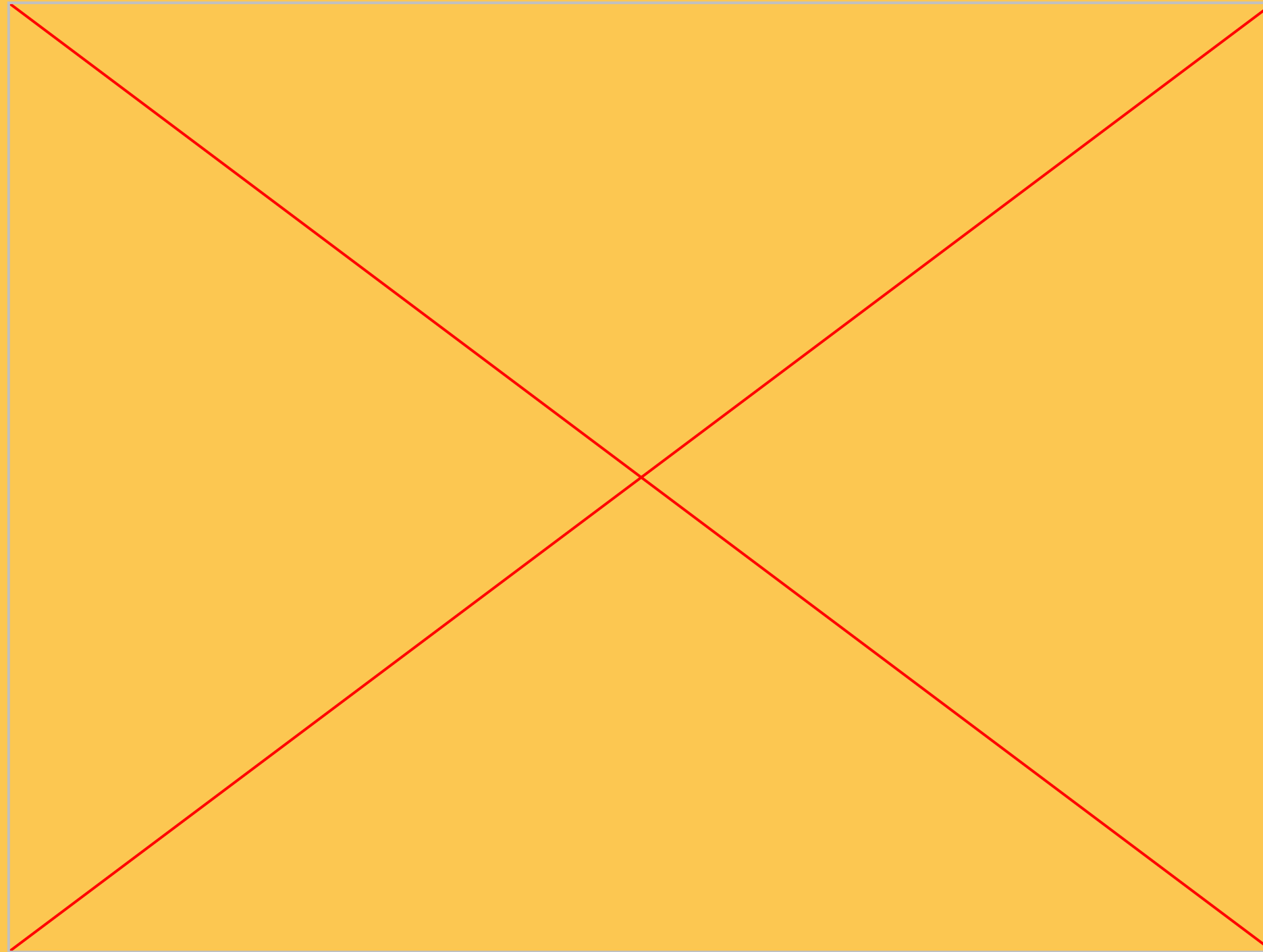
c ☐ Max's inspirations

b ☐ Max's insomnia

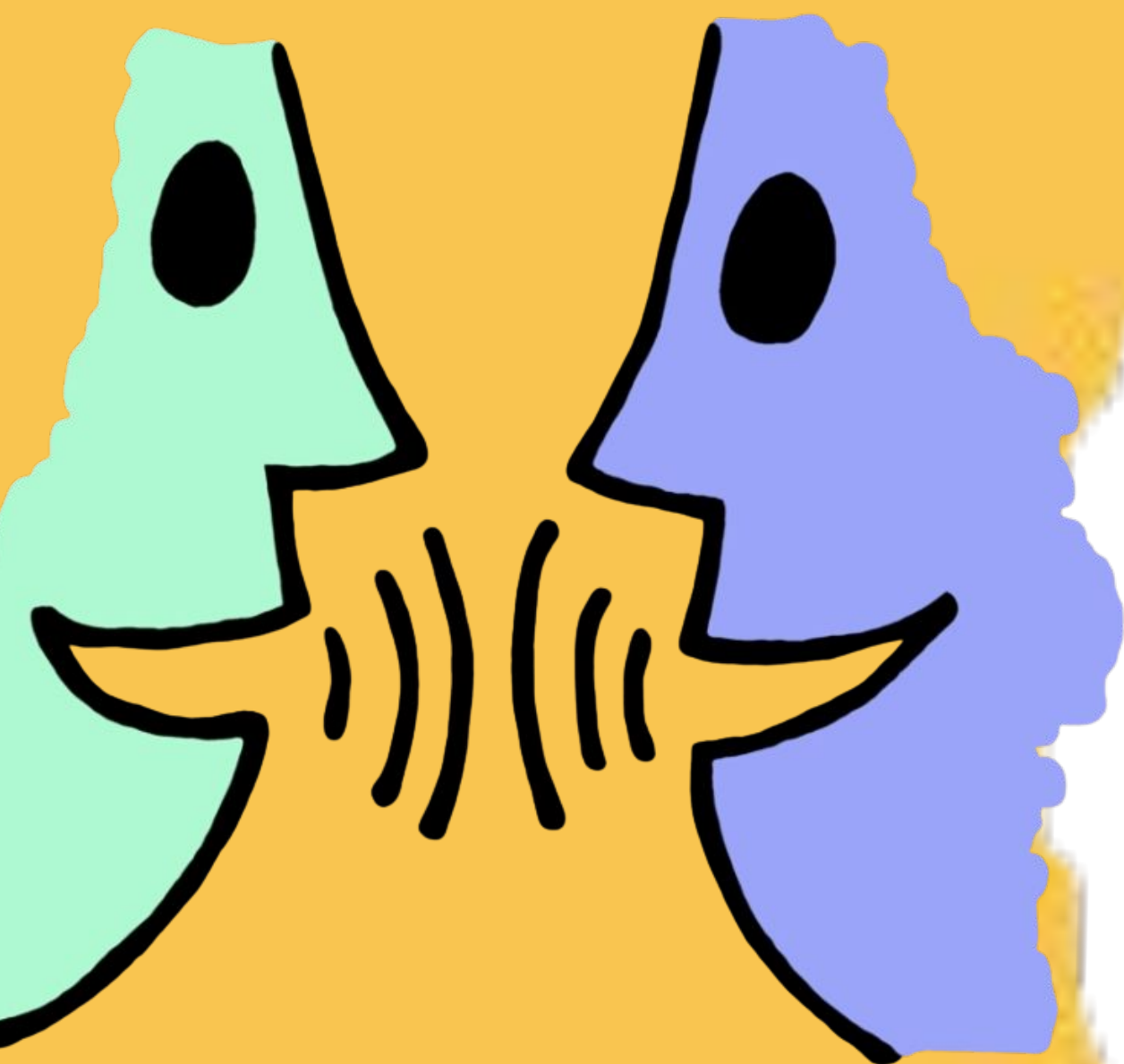
d ☐ Max's home town



C
D
A
B



Language & vocabulary



2 USEFUL LANGUAGE Turn-taking

a Match the expressions in **bold** with their uses a–c. Some expressions have more than one use.

- A/C** 1 **Sorry, if I could just finish** what I was saying, Max!
- A** 2 **Sorry to interrupt, but** Sara wasn't idly gossiping.
- B** 3 **Speaking of which,** you grew up here in Brighton, didn't you?
- B** 4 **Please, after you.**
- C** 5 **As I was saying,** I never forgot those worlds.
- A** 6 **If you don't mind me coming in here,** you had trouble sleeping as a child, didn't you?

- a interrupt someone and take a turn speaking
b encourage someone else to speak
c continue speaking about the same subject

b When would you use these phrases in a conversation?

- 1 **Go on.**
2 **Before we get started ...**
3 **Before we move on ...**

LISTENING

a  **10.20** Watch or listen to Part 3 and choose the best answer to each question.

1 Why is Sara pleased?

- ✓ a She did a great interview with a difficult interviewee.
- b She's finally getting the credit she is due.
- c She feels exhilarated after a successful broadcast.
- d Nadia is going to promote her to a full-time position.

2 What does Alex suggest Nadia said?

- a that Sara's a better interviewer than Oscar
- b that Sara's performed well
- ✓ c that Sara's job's safe
- d that Sara should celebrate

3 What are Max, Sara, Emma and Alex going to do together?

- a have a party at Emma's flat
- b watch *Moon Station X* at the cinema
- c go to a dance club
- ✓ d spend time at Max's flat

b  How do you celebrate your achievements?

MATCH THE CORRECT PARTS OF IDIOMS



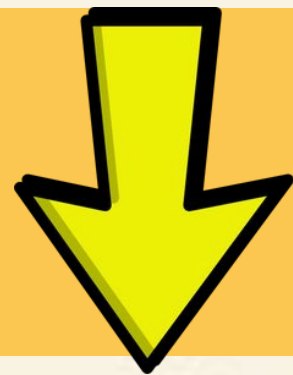
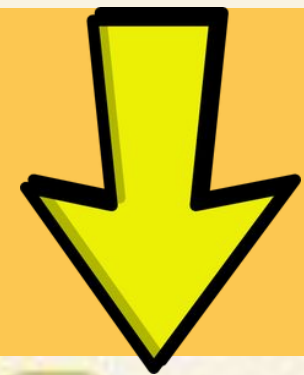
- | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | ☒ B | Hats off | a | your praises this morning. |
| 2 | ☒ D | Well, credit where | b | to you both! |
| 3 | ☒ A | I overheard Nadia
singing | c | best thing since sliced
bread! |
| 4 | ☒ C | Thinks you're the | d | credit's due. |

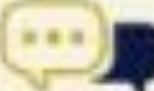
SPEAKING

a Work on your own. Invent a fictitious sportsperson. Answer the questions.

- 1 What's your name and nationality?
- 2 What's your sporting background and what team/country do you play for / who is your sponsor?
- 3 What bizarre superstitious rituals do you have (think of three)? Here are some ideas:
 - lucky charms
 - pre-match routine
 - particular clothing.

b You are going to interview your partner in their role as a sportsperson. Think of some questions to ask them.



c  Work with a partner. Take turns to interview each other. Think of answers to your partner's questions. Use expressions for turn-taking and question tags.

IDIOM PRACTICE



Which expression is used when interrupting someone?



☒ If you don't mind me butting in here...

☐ Sorry, if I could just finish what I was saying.

☐ As I was saying...

☐ Before we move on...

IDIOM PRACTICE

In a nutshell



Choose the correct answers.

Which expressions are used to encourage someone to continue speaking?

☐ Sorry to interrupt, but...

☒ Go on.

☒ Please, after you.

☐ Before we get started...

IDIOM PRACTICE

Complete the conversation.

A: Before we **get started**, I'd like to congratulate you on winning the basketball championship.

B: Well, I couldn't have done it without my team. Credit **where credit's due**. They were incredible last night.

A: Sure, but you scored the most points in the game. Everyone has been singing **your praises**.



get started

your praises

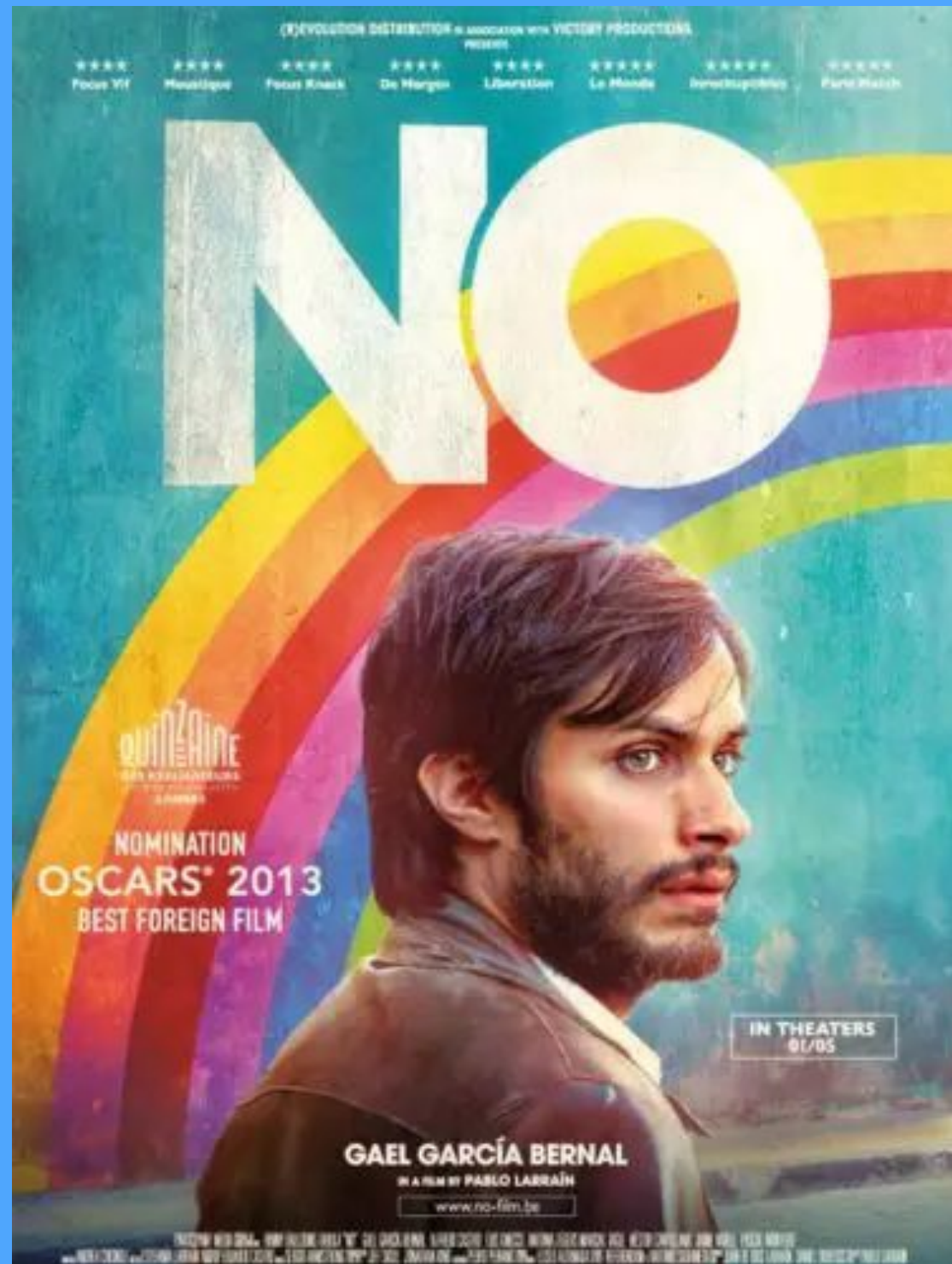
hats off

where credit's due

just finish

after you

MOVIES



1 SPEAKING AND LISTENING

a  What makes you want to see a film?
Choose one or more from the following or
your own idea.

seeing a trailer reading a plot synopsis
reading a review having read the book
hearing a friend's recommendation

D Read the four descriptions of the film *Knives Out* A–D and match them to the places you would read them.

- 1 ☐ on a film download website
- 2 ☐ on a review blog
- 3 ☐ on a sign outside a cinema
- 4 ☐ in a critic's review online



A

REVIEWS HOME NEWS chat

 Alexx Sept 16

KNIVES OUT 

Daniel Craig and an all-star cast are great in this hilarious murder mystery. Had me guessing all the way through and laughing out loud at the same time. One of the year's best – **unmissable!**

B

Knives Out 2019

Mystery surrounds the death of wealthy crime novelist Harlan Thrombey, played by Christopher Plummer (left). As his family gather for Harlan's memorial, gentleman detective Benoit Blanc investigates his death. Did someone murder him? And who hired Benoit Blanc? Everyone has a motive for murder. And they all have secrets they don't want to tell.



Buy film £10.99 Rent film £4.49

C

Review



Daniel Craig is not the only actor making a change in direction. Chris Evans (left) detours from his Captain America role to play bad-boy grandson, Ransom. It's good to see both these actors widen their range and have such fun doing so.

[Read More](#)

D

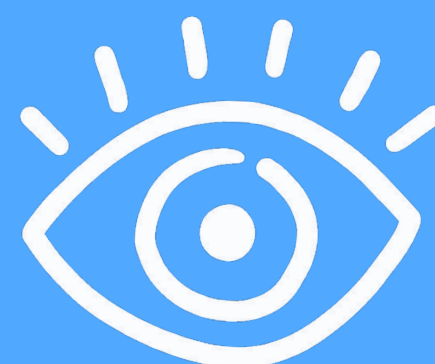
NOW SHOWING

KNIVES OUT

'Gripping and hilarious.'

It's ages since I've had this much fun at the cinema.'

– Cinema Review Magazine



LISTENING



c  How much are you influenced by reviews? Is there a reviewer whose judgement you trust? What are the reasons for and against reading reviews?

d  **10.24** Listen to four people talking about how they use reviews. Take notes to answer the questions.

- 1 What kind of film reviews do they read? Why?
- 2 When do they read them?
- 3 Do they read any other kinds of reviews?

Which person's opinions are closest to your own?



DISCUSS



e  What other kinds of reviews do you find useful? What kinds of reviews have you written yourself?



READING

- a Read two reviews of *Knives Out*. Which reviewer is more positive? What negative points does the less positive reviewer make?
- b  Based on these two reviews alone, would you want to see the film? Why / Why not?

1

Review

Knives Out

After completing two highly successful sci-fi films, director Rian Johnson switches genre to come up with a classic whodunnit, *Knives Out*. And it's a brilliant move. *Knives Out* is one of the most entertaining films to be released this year – and one of the funniest.

Having celebrated his 85th birthday, veteran crime novelist Harlan Thrombey (Christopher Plummer) dies in suspicious circumstances. He leaves behind him a huge fortune and a family of three dysfunctional children who are keen to find out what's in his will. And then there's Harlan's nurse, Marta (Ana de Armas) – did she make a mistake or not? Detectives are called in to establish the real cause of Harlan's death. They are helped by a mysterious gentleman sleuth, Benoit Balance (Daniel Craig). No one seems to know who hired him.

The twists and turns in the plot of *Knives Out* will keep you guessing until the end. It looks like everyone has a motive to murder Harlan. The witty script will also keep you laughing with joke after joke. The cast is terrific. Johnson has assembled a great line-up of stars, but no one is trying to outshine anyone else – this is classic ensemble acting at its best. However, Daniel Craig's performance as a gentleman from America's Deep South shows how far his range extends beyond James Bond.

I really can't recommend *Knives Out* highly enough. It feels like Agatha Christie brought into the 21st century. And while it is hugely entertaining, there are subtle observations on the theme of belonging – to a family, to a society – that boil quietly away beneath the jokes. Rian Johnson has shown he can triumph in another genre and give us a great night at the cinema at the same time.

READING

- a Read two reviews of *Knives Out*. Which reviewer is more positive? What negative points does the less positive reviewer make?
- b  Based on these two reviews alone, would you want to see the film? Why / Why not?

2

KNIVES OUT Review

Knives Out, the latest film directed by Rian Johnson, has a stellar cast. Daniel Craig is joined by Chris Evans, Jamie Lee Curtis, Toni Collette and Michael Shannon – and they all have a whole lot of fun in this classic murder mystery.

Craig plays Benoit Blanc, a mysterious gentleman detective helping two hapless detectives. **Suspecting foul play**, they're trying to unravel the sudden death of multi-millionaire mystery writer, Harlan Thrombey (Christopher Plummer). We discover that Harlan settled personal scores with all three of his children, and the only person who he seemed to like was his nurse Marta (Ana de Armas). She has a mysterious habit of throwing up whenever she tells a lie. Just about everyone has got a motive to kill Harlan off.

There's a compelling array of characters in *Knives Out*, and the plot is in the tradition of all good murder mysteries with unexpected revelations and narrative zigzags. Jamie Lee Curtis, Toni Collette and Michael Shannon stand out as Harlan's three desperate children. Daniel Craig, in a noticeable change from his 007 role, conveys a menacing charm, but his American accent doesn't always convince.

The actors are working from director Rian Johnson's script. It's very funny with lots of jokes, but just occasionally it feels a bit wordy, and the action needs to get a move on. Nonetheless, Johnson shows he knows how to master the murder mystery genre. *Knives Out* is delightfully old-fashioned but with a contemporary touch that feels just right.

At just over two hours long, I found *Knives Out* highly enjoyable. This film will appeal to just about everyone – crime buffs, comedy lovers and those who love character-driven plot. I couldn't work out whodunnit until the very end – always a good sign.

WRITING

3 WRITING SKILLS

Film reviews; Concise description

a Tick (✓) the elements that are included in the reviews. Are they included in the same order in both reviews?

- 1 ☐ when and where the writer saw the film
- 2 ☒ the names of the director and actors
- 3 ☒ outline of the plot
- 4 ☐ how the film ends
- 5 ☒ strong points of the film
- 6 ☒ weak points of the film
- 7 ☒ short summarising statement
- 8 ☒ recommendation – whether to see it or not

Should the elements you didn't tick be included in a review? Why / Why not?

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b Which reviewer mentions strengths or weaknesses in the following areas? Write *A*, *B* or *both*.

- | | | |
|--------------|----------|-----------------------|
| 1 plot | 3 acting | 5 themes/messages |
| 2 characters | 4 pace | 6 success of the film |

c Underline three expressions the writers use to write about films that you would find useful to learn. Compare with other students. Did you choose the same ones?



WRITING

d Compare the sentences below with the phrases in **bold** in the two reviews. How are the words in *italics* different in the reviews? Why do you think the writers chose to do this? Choose 1 or 2.

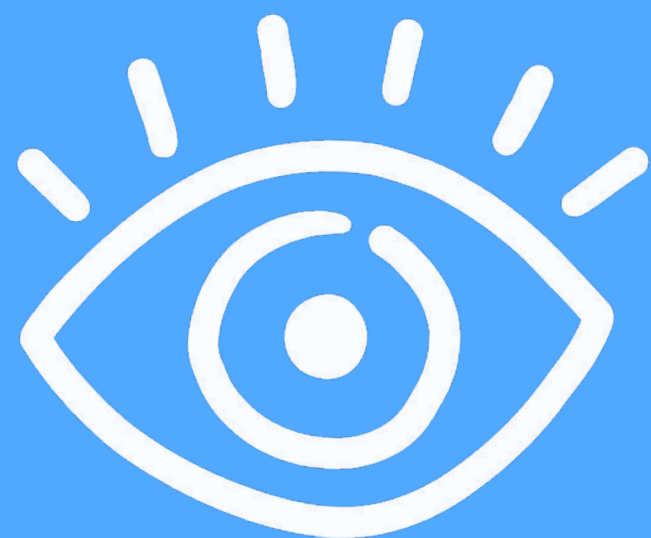
- 1 to make the meaning clearer
- 2 to give the information more concisely

After he has celebrated his 85th birthday, veteran crime novelist Harlan Thrombey (Christopher Plummer) dies in suspicious circumstances.

Because they suspect foul play, they're trying to unravel the sudden death of multi-millionaire mystery writer, Harlan Thrombey (Christopher Plummer).



WRITING TASK



4 WRITING

- a** Choose a film or TV series you know and plan a review of 220–260 words. Think about:
 - describing the film or TV series for someone who hasn't seen it
 - main strengths and weaknesses
 - how to structure your review into four paragraphs.
- b** Write the review. Try to:
 - use adjectives to give an intense description
 - make the information as concise as possible.
- c** Read another student's review. Do you know the film or TV series? If so, decide if you agree with what it says. If not, decide whether you'd like to see it based on the review.

