

A Moviemaker at Last



1. Read the story

Look at the pictures on these pages.
What is the story about? Now read it.

TAIPEI, TAIWAN ¹The international hit films* *Hulk*, *The Ice Storm*, and *Crouching** Tiger, Hidden Dragon**** have won hearts around the world. Did you know they were made by the same extraordinary man?

²Born in Taiwan, Ang Lee was **shy** and unhappy as a child. ³He attended a high school where his father was the **principal**. As the oldest son, Lee had many **responsibilities** and was **expected** to do well at school. ⁴**However**, he did poorly. "My head wasn't in the books," he says. When he failed the important college entrance **test** twice, his family was **disappointed** in him.

⁵In 1978, Lee went to the USA to become an actor, but his English wasn't good enough. ⁶Then for 14 **tough** years he tried unsuccessfully to make a film. His pockets were empty, and he was desperate. ⁷In 1992, Lee finally had some good luck. He won a **competition** in Taiwan to make a movie. He was a moviemaker at last! ⁸These days, Lee's parents are **proud** of their Oscar-winning son, who makes hit films in Hollywood and Asia. "I can make movies **forever**," he says.

* hit films: movies that are very popular

** crouching: bending your knees and body so that you are close to the ground

*** dragon: a big animal with fire in its mouth; it is not a real animal

NEW WORDS

tiger *n*

shy *adj*

principal *n*

responsibility *n*

expect *v*

however *conj*

test *n*

disappointed *adj*

tough *adj*

competition *n*

proud *adj*

forever *adv*

>> See Glossary on page 89. >>

2. Rate the story

How much did you like it? Mark an **X**.

Not at All

A Lot

1

2

3

4

5

3. Check your comprehension

Correct five more mistakes in the story summary. The first one is done for you.

Ang Lee was a ~~happy~~^{shy} child. He attended a high school where his mother was the principal, and he did well there. When Lee went to the USA, he had four tough years. He tried unsuccessfully to make a film and became poor and desperate. But then he had some good luck. He won a competition in New York to make a movie. He was a moviemaker at last! Lee's parents are proud of their son, who makes hit movies in Hollywood and Africa.

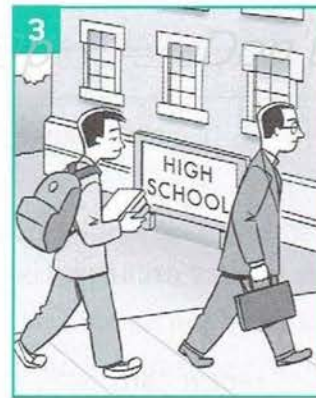
4. Check your vocabulary

Complete the sentences with the New Words.

- Ang Lee was a s__ child.
- Lee was ex__ed to do well at school; how___, he did poorly.
- When he failed the college entrance __ s __ twice, his family was ___ppointed in him.
- Lee says that he can make movies for_____.

5. Listen to the story track 8

Now listen to the story two or three times. Look at the pictures below as you listen.



6. Retell the story

Cover the story and look at the pictures above. Retell the story using the New Words.

7. Answer the questions

About the story...

- Why was Ang Lee's life difficult as a child?
- What happened when Lee went to the USA?
- How did Lee's parents change?
- What do you think is the most interesting thing about Ang Lee?

About you...

- Have you seen any of Ang Lee's films? Which one is your favorite?
- Would you like to be a moviemaker? Why or why not?
- What responsibilities do you have?
- How are you like Lee? How are you different from Lee?

8. Learn word partnerships

Study the partnerships below. Complete the sentences so they are true for you.

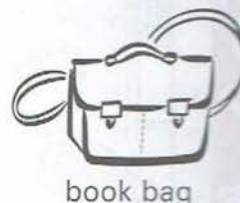
PROUD		
	of something or someone	Lee's parents are proud of their son. <i>My parents are proud of me because I work hard.</i> <i>She's proud of winning the game.</i> <i>I'm proud of playing the piano.</i> <i>We're proud that we can speak English.</i>
be proud	of doing something	
	that + clause	

- I'm very proud of _____.
- I'm proud that _____.
- _____ is proud _____ me because _____.

9. Learn word groups

Complete the sentences so they are true. Use words from the pictures.

AT SCHOOL



- One hundred percent is a perfect _____.
- Not many students like to take a _____.
- I often put my books in a _____.
- When you finish high school or college, you get a _____.

10. Take a dictation track 9

Use your own paper to write the dictation. Check your answers on page 86.

11. Complete the story

Use the words from the box to complete the story.

tiger expects however is proud of forever competitions

Action Queen

HONG KONG Michelle Yeoh jumps from tall walls, flies through the air, and once even landed her bike on top of a fast-moving train. That's right! Michelle is an international action star* who does all her own stunts**.

The first time Michelle was in an action film, she had a quiet, calm part. She watched the men doing kung fu and karate and thought, "I can do that, too!" So Michelle studied martial arts*** 12 hours a day and kicked her way into a man's world. Since then, she has won many (1) _____. She has also made many movies. One of her most famous films is *Crouching (2) _____, Hidden Dragon.*

(3) _____, Michelle has paid a price for success. Her fights are real—and very dangerous. She has been burned and has hurt her legs, shoulders, and back. In her film *Ah Kam*, she had her worst accident, falling from a bridge and landing on her head. It almost killed her.

Michelle (4) _____ being an action star. She has started her own film company in Hong Kong and (5) _____ to continue in the film business (6) _____. "I love the excitement," she says.



* action star: an actor who does dangerous things in movies

** stunts: dangerous things that people do to amaze and surprise people

*** martial arts: sports like karate and tae kwon do



Talk about the stories

Which job is the most interesting to you—Ang Lee's or Michelle Yeoh's? Why?