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Behind the scenes

1



MOVIE FIRSTS

The First . . .	
<p>1889 Motion-picture camera</p> <p>1903 Silent narrative film – <i>The Great Train Robbery</i></p> <p>1914 Luxury movie theater</p> <p>1928 Talking film – <i>The Jazz Singer</i></p> <p>1928 Mickey Mouse cartoon</p>	<p>1933 Drive-in movie theater</p> <p>1939 Color epic – <i>Gone With the Wind</i></p> <p>1953 Full-length three-dimensional (3-D) feature film – <i>House of Wax</i></p> <p>1982 Film with computer-created special effects – <i>Tron</i></p> <p>1991 Advanced computer technology – <i>Terminator 2</i></p>

Source: *The New York Public Library Book of Chronologies*

Talk about these questions.

Have you seen any of the movies mentioned? Did you enjoy them?

Have you ever seen a silent film? a 3-D movie? a movie at a drive-in? What was it called?

Are there many movies made in your country? Name a few of your favorites.

2 CONVERSATION

A  Listen and practice.

Ryan: Working on movies must be really exciting.

Nina: Oh, yeah, but it's also very hard work. A one-minute scene in a film can take days to shoot.

Ryan: Why is that?

Nina: Well, each scene isn't filmed just once. Lots of different shots have to be done. Only the best ones are used in the film.

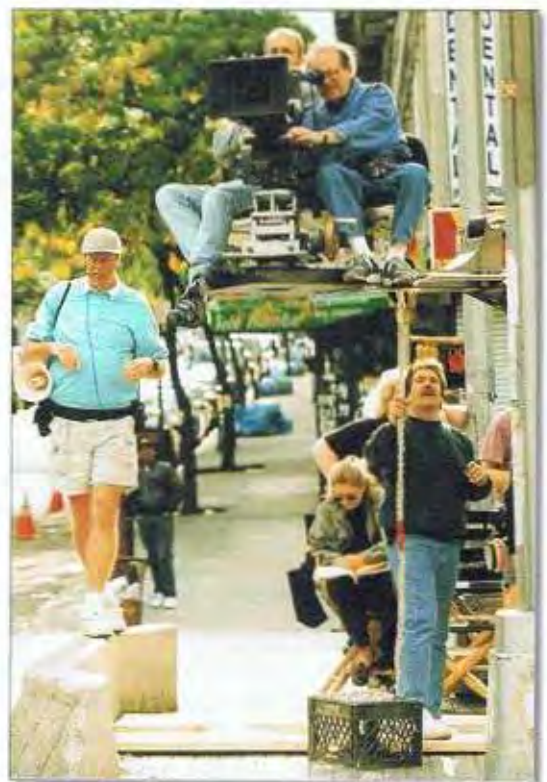
Ryan: So, how many shots are taken?

Nina: It depends, but sometimes as many as 20. One scene may be shot from five or six different angles.


Ryan: Wow! I didn't realize that.

Nina: Why don't you come visit the studio? You can see how the special effects are done.

Ryan: Great, I'd love to!



CLASS AUDIO ONLY 

B  Listen to the rest of the conversation. What else makes working on movies difficult?

3 GRAMMAR FOCUS

The passive to describe process

The passive is often used to describe how something is done, used, or made.

Be + past participle

Each scene isn't filmed just once.
Only the best shots are used.

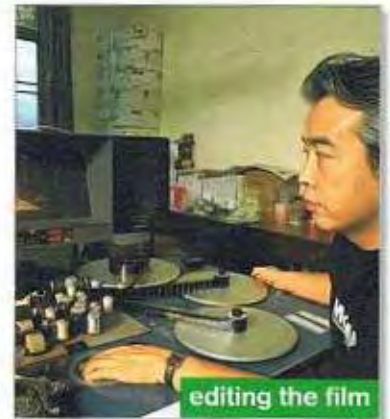
Modal + be + past participle

One scene may be shot from five or six different angles.
Lots of different shots have to be done.

For a list of irregular past participles, see the appendix at the back of the book.

A These sentences describe how a movie is made. First, complete the sentences using the passive form of the verbs. Then compare with a partner.

- The final film you see on the screen (create) by the director and editor out of thousands of different shots.
- In the full script, the story (divide) into scenes – the action and filming details (write out).
- First, the outline or "treatment" of the film script has to (prepare).
- Once the film is put together, music (compose) and sound effects may (add).
- Different shots or "takes" (film) separately. Only the best "takes" (select) by the director.
- Next, the actors (choose), locations (pick), and costumes (design). Filming can then begin.
- After the filming (complete), the different "takes" (put) together by the editor and director.
- Then the treatment (expand) into a full script.
- Once filming begins, scenes may (not shoot) in the order that they will appear in the movie.
- After the script (finish), a director has to (hire).



B Pair work Number the sentences in part A from 1 to 10 to describe the sequence in which the events occur.



4 LISTENING

CLASS AUDIO ONLY

Listen to a TV producer describe what he does. Write down two things you learned.

Two new things I learned

.....

.....

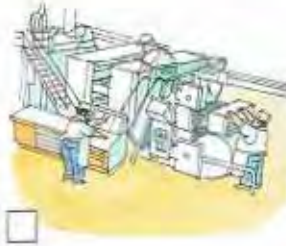
5 STEP BY STEP

A Pair work Choose one of these events. Put the pictures in order and describe the steps in the process. You may use the vocabulary given.

A theater performance: *actors, costumes, play, sets, build, design, rehearse, perform*



The making of a newspaper: *articles, reporters, research, interviews, print, distribute*



B Group work Choose another event: a fashion show, a rock concert, or a TV sitcom. Write down as many steps as you can think of to prepare for the event.

C Class activity Compare your information from part B. Which group has the most steps?

6 WRITING

A Write about one of the events from Exercise 5 or another topic of your own. Describe the event and the different steps in the process.

Sawing someone in half is a common illusion in a magic show. The magician's assistant gets into a box, with her head and feet sticking out of each end, and the magician saws the box in half. This illusion is really quite simple.

First, a special box is prepared. It contains a mechanical pair of feet that look like the assistant's feet. As soon as the assistant gets into the box, ...



B Pair work Take turns reading your compositions. Can you suggest any additional steps to add to your partner's paper?

7 WORD POWER *Multimedia*

A Where do people with these occupations work? Complete the chart.

camera operator
computer programmer
film editor

foreign correspondent
gossip columnist
graphic designer

movie producer
on-call technician
photo editor


sportswriter
stunt person
webpage designer

Film industry	Newspaper publishing	Computer industry

B Group work What job or jobs do you think each person in part A does?

"A camera operator handles the camera during a movie shoot."

8 PRONUNCIATION *Stress in compound nouns*

A  In compound nouns (noun + noun or adjective + noun), the first word usually receives greater stress. Which compound nouns in Exercise 7 follow this rule? Which do not? Listen and practice.

B Pair work Think of and practice four more compound nouns describing occupations.

8 CONVERSATION

A  Listen and practice.

Liz: Where are you working now, Bob?

Bob: *The Daily Advertiser*. I have two jobs, actually.
My main job is working as an assistant editor.

Liz: What does an assistant editor do?

Bob: Well, an assistant editor, who is often relatively new to journalism, gets the stories ready for the editor.

Liz: That sounds kind of interesting.

Bob: It's OK. But my other job is more interesting.

Liz: And what's that?

Bob: I'm the movie critic, too. It's terrific. And I get to see all the latest movies for free.

Liz: So you're the one who writes those sarcastic reviews. You don't like anything!

Bob: That's me!



B Class activity Which job in newspaper publishing most interests you?

10 GRAMMAR FOCUS

Relative clauses

Defining relative clauses explain or identify the person that you are talking about.

An assistant editor is the person.
He gets the stories ready for the editor.

→ An assistant editor is the person that gets the stories ready for the editor.

A movie critic is the person who writes movie reviews.

Non-defining relative clauses give further information about someone.

An assistant editor gets the stories ready for the editor.
An assistant editor is often relatively new to journalism.

→ An assistant editor, who is often relatively new to journalism, gets the stories ready for the editor.

A movie critic, who gets to see the movies for free, often sees several in a day.

A Do these sentences contain defining (D) or non-defining (ND) clauses? Add commas to the non-defining clauses. Then compare with a partner.

1. A movie producer who controls the budget decides how money will be spent.
2. A stunt person who has the most physically difficult job in a movie "stands in" for an actor during dangerous scenes.
3. A media specialist is the person who studies all aspects of communication.
4. A special-effects designer who needs advanced computer knowledge often spends millions of dollars on computer graphics.
5. A stagehand is the person who moves the sets on stage in a theater production.

B Class activity Which of the jobs in part A would you like to do? Which wouldn't you like to do? Why?



a stunt person

11 PROFESSIONAL PREFERENCES

A Pair work Write about these professions. Use defining and non-defining relative clauses.

a set designer a sportswriter
a gossip columnist a talk show host

B Group work Form a group with another pair and compare information. Then tell the group which job you think is the most interesting. What does the job involve? Why does it interest you?

"I think one of the most interesting jobs in the entertainment industry is the set designer. The set designer is the person who Also, he or she gets to Being a set designer is interesting because"

interchange 14

Who makes it happen?

What kinds of people does it take to make a business run?

Turn to page IC-19.

12 READING

Coming Soon to a Theater Near You!

What are special effects? Do you enjoy movies that use a lot of special effects?

Dinosaurs from the distant past! Space battles from the distant future! There has been a revolution in special effects, and it has transformed the movies we see.

The revolution began in the mid-1970s with George Lucas's *Star Wars*, a film that stunned audiences; that revolution continues to the present, with dramatic changes in special-effects technology. The company behind these changes is Lucas's Industrial Light & Magic (ILM). And the man behind the company is Dennis Muren, who has worked with Lucas since *Star Wars*.

Muren's interest in special effects began very early: At age 6, he was photographing toy dinosaurs and spaceships. By 10, he had an 8-millimeter movie camera and was making these things move through stop-motion. (Stop-motion is a process in which objects are shot with a camera, moved slightly, shot again, and so on; when the shots are put together, the objects appear to move.)

Talk to Muren and you'll understand what ILM is all about: taking on new challenges. By 1989, Muren decided he had pushed the old technology as far as it would go.



He saw computer graphics (CG) technology as the wave of the future and took a year off to master it.

With CG technology, images can be scanned into a computer for processing, for example, and many separate shots can be combined into a single image. CG technology has now reached the point, Muren says, where special effects can be used to do just about anything – so that movies can tell stories better than ever before. The huge success of *Jurassic Park* and its sequel, *The Lost World* – the stars of which were computer-generated dinosaurs – suggests that this may very well be true.

A Read the article. Check (✓) True or False. For the false statements, give the correct information.

	True	False
1. The special-effects revolution began in the mid-1980s with <i>Star Wars</i> .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. ILM is the company responsible for many of the changes in special effects.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. By age 10, Dennis Muren was able to use computer graphics to make things seem to move.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. With the stop-motion process, many separate shots can be combined into a single image.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Muren feels that with stop-motion technology, just about any special effect can be achieved.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B Group work Talk about these questions.

1. What movie's special effects impressed you the most? Describe the effects.
2. Critics say that movies are emphasizing special effects at the expense of the story. Others argue that special effects make the stories better. What do you think?