

# UNIT 1

## Talking about movies

### Topic

Telling the outline of movies (Who, Where, When, What, How it ends)

### Language focus

It's about a woman who . . . / It takes place in . . . / In the end they . . .

### GETTING STARTED

**Step 1** Match the type of movie to the picture.

a) action   b) comedy   c) horror   d) science fiction   e) musical   f) romance



1) \_\_\_\_\_



2) \_\_\_\_\_



3) \_\_\_\_\_



4) \_\_\_\_\_



5) \_\_\_\_\_



6) \_\_\_\_\_

**Step 2** With a partner, ask and answer the following questions:

- Q1) What kind of movies do you like?
- Q2) How often do you watch movies?
- Q3) Have you seen a good movie recently? Why did you like it?
- Q4) What movie would you like to rent or buy next?

## LISTENING

**Step 1** What's the movie about?  **CD-02**

Listen to John, Atsuko and Takashi talking about some famous movies. As you listen, number the movies from 1 to 4. After that, list some key words or phrases that helped you decide your answers. The first one is done for you.

Movie A ( 1 )



Movie B ( )



Movie C ( )



Movie D ( )



Movie A: romance / big ship / iceberg

Movie B: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Movie C: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Movie D: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

**Step 2** Fill in the blanks.  **CD-03**

Listen once more to Takashi's story and fill in the blanks in the extract below:

This movie is about a \_\_\_\_\_ who becomes interested in dancing. Most of the film \_\_\_\_\_ in Japan, but some scenes are set in England. Anyway, the businessman \_\_\_\_\_ dancing lessons from a beautiful young teacher. His wife is unhappy about this. But, \_\_\_\_\_, he takes part in a big dance contest in England. He wins first prize and his wife is happy again.

## LANGUAGE FOCUS

### Who, Where, When, What, How it ends

#### Giving background information

When we tell the story of a movie, we usually begin with some background information. This will normally include **WHO**, **WHERE** and **WHEN**:

- This film is set in the 1960s. (WHEN)
- It's about a doctor from New York . . . . (WHO)
- . . . who goes to work in a small town in Australia. (WHERE)

Here are two more examples of movie backgrounds. Can you find the WHO, WHERE and WHEN? Underline them.

- This film is about a young girl who lives in Australia in the late 1980s.
- This movie takes place in ancient times. It's about two princes who live in a golden palace.

#### Explaining what happens and how it ends

After the background information, we can tell our listeners what happens in the movie:

- He meets a married, middle-aged woman and falls in love with her. (WHAT HAPPENS)
- In the end, he gets in his car and drives out of town. (HOW IT ENDS)

## LANGUAGE PRACTICE

**Step 1** Make short movie introductions from the following information:

- 1) a 15-year-old-girl / a small town in the American midwest / the 1980s

This movie is about a 15-year-old girl who lives in a small town in the American midwest in the 1980s.

- 2) a warrior princess / a desert kingdom / the distant past

This movie is set in \_\_\_\_\_

- 3) a family of aliens / Mars / the 23rd century

This movie takes place \_\_\_\_\_

**Step 2** Match the two sides to complete the stories.

### WHAT HAPPENS

- 1) A boy and a girl fall in love, but their parents are against it. He is very poor and she is very rich.
- 2) A married woman receives a letter from an old boyfriend and starts seeing him in secret. She thinks of asking her husband for a divorce.
- 3) A young schoolboy wants to be a ballet dancer, but his family is unhappy about it, so he practices in secret.
- 4) An angry young man is involved in a car crash and loses his memory. He wakes up and has become much kinder.

### HOW IT ENDS

- a) He receives a scholarship to the Royal Ballet, and at the end of the movie appears on the London Stage.
- b) They end up running away and getting married in a secret ceremony.
- c) Eventually, he makes a complete recovery and marries the nurse who looked after him.
- d) In the end, she realizes how important her family is, and goes back to them.

1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_ 3) \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_

## PRONUNCIATION POINT



### Linking word endings and word beginnings

**Step 1** Native speakers usually pronounce “This film’s set in America” like this:

**This film’s set in America**      set + in + America = *setina MErica*

In fluent English, words that end in consonants (b, d, g, l, n, p, t, etc.) combine with vowels (a, e, i, o, u) at the start of the next word.

Take turns saying “This film’s set in America” with your partner. Say it until it sounds natural.

**Step 2** Now practice the following phrases with a similar pattern. Can you say all three **in less than 6 seconds without any pauses?**



- 1) sometime in the future
- 2) a group of police officers
- 3) on a small island in the Pacific

### Useful words and phrases

(Describing storylines from movies)

#### 1) people, places, and time

It’s about a boy who . . . / It takes place in . . . / It’s set in . . .

#### 2) How it ends

In the end . . . / Eventually, she . . . / They end up -ing . . .

# FLUENCY FACTORY



**Step 1** Think of a movie or TV drama you have seen, and make some notes about it:

WHO: \_\_\_\_\_

WHERE: \_\_\_\_\_

WHEN: \_\_\_\_\_

(Make sure you include "It takes place in . . ." or "It's set in . . .")

WHAT HAPPENS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

HOW IT ENDS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Make sure you include "In the end . . ." or "Eventually . . .")

**Step 2** Stand up and make a pair with another student. You each have 50 seconds to tell your story.



**Step 3** Make a new pair. This time, you each have 35 seconds to tell your story.

**Step 4** Finally, make another new pair. This time, you each have 25 seconds.

## DIARY WRITING

Before the next lesson, think about an accident (e.g. falling off a bicycle, breaking a window) that happened when you were a child. Write about it in Diary #1.



**Diary #1** Date:     /     /

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_