**7** Opening night

Glossary

# Page 77

* 1. **opening night** (n) /ˈəʊpənɪŋ naɪt/

first public performance ● *The actors felt nervous on the opening night and hoped the play would be a success.* ❖ serata della prima

✎ Syn: premiere

* 1. **box office** (n) /bɒks ˈɒfɪs/

money from ticket sales for a show or film, etc. ● *The film became an instant box office success.* ❖ botteghino

* 1. **genre** (n) /ˈʒɒ̃rə/

a style of film, art, music, etc. which has particular characteristics ● *Black comedy is a film genre which can address serious issues by using humour.* ❖ genere

* 1. **sci-fi** (n) /ˈsaɪ faɪ/

abbreviation of science fiction ● *I enjoy watching sci-fi series about time travel, such as* Doctor Who. ❖ fantascienza

Reading **Pages 78–79**

* 1. **scoundrel** (n) /ˈskaʊndrəl/

a person who cheats, lies or treats others badly ● *The insurance agent was simply a scoundrel who ran off with his customers’ money.* ❖ furfante

* 1. **saint** (n) /seɪnt/

a very good, kind person ● *She’s regarded as a saint for her volunteer work with the homeless.* ➣ saintly (adj) ❖ santo

* 1. **lead actor** (n) /liːd ˈæktə(r)/

the actor who plays the main role ● *Frances McDormand won an Oscar as the female lead actor in the film* Nomadland*.* ❖ protagonista

* 1. **release** (v) /rɪˈliːs/

make available to buy, listen to, watch, etc.

* + - *When will the band’s new album be released?* ➣ release (n) ❖ rilasciare
  1. **fictional** (adj) /ˈfɪkʃənl/

imaginary and from a book or story ● *My favourite fictional character is Arya from* Game of Thrones. ➣ fiction (n) ❖ di immaginazione

✎ Opp: factual

* 1. **effectiveness** (n) /ɪˈfektɪvnəs/

the fact of achieving an aim ● *They’re experimenting to test the effectiveness of different stage lighting.* ➣ effective (adj), effectively (adv) ❖ efficacia

✎ Opp: ineffectiveness

* 1. **blind** (v) /blaɪnd/

make sb confused or unable to notice sth

* + - *The film’s all-star cast blinded us to the weakness of the plot.* ➣ blind (adj, adv), blindly (adv), blindness (n) ❖ accecare
  1. **gloom** (n) /ˈgluːm/

a background or situation that is dark, making it difficult to see clearly; darkness ● *I looked out into the gloom, but I didn’t see anyone on the dark street.* ➣ gloomy (adj) ❖ oscurità

* 1. **swiftly** (adv) /ˈswɪftli/

quickly ● *The singer swiftly rose to fame after his first hit.* ➣ swift (adj), swiftness (n)

* rapidamente
  1. **triumph** (n) /ˈtraɪʌmf/

a great achievement or success ● *The fans gathered to celebrate their team’s latest triumph.* ➣ triumphant (adj), triumphantly (adv)

* trionfo
  1. **admirable** (adj) /ˈædmərəbl/

worth respect or approval ● *Despite their admirable performances, neither of the lead actors won an award*. ➣ admire (v), admiration (n), admirably (adv) ❖ ammirevole

* 1. **exaggeration** (n) /ɪɡˌzædʒəˈreɪʃn/

a statement that makes sth seem much better or worse, larger or smaller in importance than it is ● *The film was so bad that it would be no exaggeration to call it an absolute flop.*

➣ exaggerate (v) ❖ esagerazione

* 1. **masterpiece** (n) /ˈmɑːstəpiːs/

a work of art, literature or music that is particularly successful or representative of the artist’s work ● *Frida Kahlo’s self-portrait is considered to be a masterpiece.*

* capolavoro
  1. **realism** (n) /ˈriːəlɪzəm/

being very like real life ● *Fantasy is generally more entertaining than realism in children’s books.* ➣ realistic (adj), realist (n)

* realismo
  1. **cast** (n) /kɑːst/

all the people who act in a play or film

* + - *The actor Joaquin Phoenix headed the cast of* Joker*.* ➣ cast (v) ❖ cast
  1. **found** (v) /faʊnd/

begin an organisation, company, etc.

* + - *He founded the newspaper in order to present unbiased reports of current affairs.*

➣ founder, foundation (n) ❖ fondare

* 1. **uncanny** (adj) /ʌnˈkæni/

strange or mysterious ● *He has an almost uncanny ability to predict the weather correctly.*

➣ uncannily (adv) ❖ inspiegabile

* 1. **alert** (adj) /əˈlɜːt/

paying attention and thinking quickly ● *When caring for a new-born baby, you have to stay alert at all times.* ➣ alert (v) ❖ all'erta

* 1. **narrative** (n) /ˈnærətɪv/

a story; a description of an event ● *The book was such a thrilling narrative I didn’t want to put it down till the end.* ➣ narrate (v), narrator

(n) ❖ narrazione

* 1. **motion picture** (n) /ˌməʊʃn ˈpɪkʧə(r)/

a film made for cinema ● *The film industry has come a long way since the first motion pictures of the late 19th century.* ❖ pellicola cinematografica

* 1. **cast** (v) /kɑːst/

choose an actor for a particular role in a play or film ● *The director Todd Phillips cast Joaquin Phoenix as the Joker.* ➣ cast (v)

* scritturare
  1. **venture** (v) /ˈvenʧə(r)/

dare to say or suggest ● *He ventured the idea that the painting was a copy and not the original.* ➣ venture (n) ❖ osare

* 1. **tricksy** (adj) /ˈtrɪksi/

very complicated and confusing ● *The special effects were a little too tricksy for my liking. I prefer more realism.* ➣ trick (n, v)

* complicato
  1. **obscure** (adj) /əbˈskjʊə(r)/

unclear in meaning ● *The plot was too obscure for most of the viewers to understand.*

➣ obscure (v), obscurity (n) ❖ oscuro

* 1. **directness** (n) /dəˈrektnəs/

the quality of speaking clearly in a simple understandable way ● *Shakespeare’s classic* Romeo and Juliet *has a directness that appeals to many people regardless of their educational background.* ➣ direct (adj), directly (adv) ❖ franchezza ✎ Opp: indirectness

Vocabulary **Page 80**

* 1. **blockbuster** (n) /ˈblɒkbʌstə(r)/

a very popular and successful film or book

* + - *The series* Stranger Things *was a blockbuster that made Milly Bobby Brown famous.* ❖ successo commerciale
  1. **soundtrack** (n) /ˈsaʊndtræk/

the music for a film ● *She bought the CD of the soundtrack from the film* Mamma Mia!

* colonna sonora
  1. **spotlight** (n) /ˈspɒtlaɪt/

a large, bright light that shines onto a stage

* + - *With the spotlight shining on him, the singer couldn’t see the audience.* ❖ riflettore
  1. **playwright** (n) /ˈpleɪraɪt/

sb who writes theatrical plays ● *J. M. Barrie was the Scottish author and playwright who wrote* Peter Pan. ❖ drammaturgo

* 1. **screenplay** (n) /ˈskriːnpleɪ/

the script of a film, including the stage instructions for actors and film crew

* + - *J.K. Rowling wrote* Fantastic Beasts *as a screenplay for a film.* ❖ sceneggiatura, copione
  1. **award-winning** (adj) /əˈwɔːd wɪnɪŋ/ that has won a prize for an achievement
     + *She has written several award-winning novels.* ➣ award (n, v) ❖ premiato
  2. **adaptation** (n) /ædæpˈteɪʃn/

a film or series based on a book or a play

* + - *Have you seen the latest film adaptation of the book* The Call of The Wild*?* ➣ adapt (v)
* adattamento
  1. **back story** (n) /ˈbæk stɔːri/

background events involving the characters of a story, film, etc. ● *The book begins with a*

*brief back story of the relationship between the main characters.* ❖ storia di fondo

* 1. **graphic novel** (n) /ˌɡræfɪk ˈnɒvl/

a book with the story told in pictures, like a comic ● *Although it was about a serious social issue, the graphic novel presented the facts in an eye-catching way.* ❖ graphic novel

* 1. **dress rehearsal** (n) /dres rɪˈhɜːsl/

the final practice with actors wearing their costumes before the first performance

* + - *The director made a few changes to our stage positions during the dress rehearsal.*
* prova costumi
  1. **sequel** (n) /ˈsiːkwəl/

a book or film which continues a story from an original one ● *I was delighted to see that the* Sherlock Holmes *sequel was every bit as good as the original film.* ❖ continuazione

* 1. **climax** (n) /ˈklaɪmæks/

the most exciting or important point in a story

* + - *The film reached a dramatic climax where the crime was solved a few minutes before the end.* ❖ apice
  1. **interval** (n) /ˈɪntəvəl/

a short break during a cinema or theatre performance ● *We had a quick drink in the theatre foyer during the interval.*

* intervallo
  1. **backdrop** (n) /ˈbækdrɒp/

the circumstances in which a story or event is set, which generally affect the action ● *The plot unfolded against the backdrop of the French Revolution.* ❖ sfondo

* 1. **gripping** (adj) /ˈɡrɪpɪŋ/

exciting and holding your interest ● *It was a gripping story, full of action and emotion.*

➣ grip (n, v) ❖ appassionante

* 1. **autobiography** (n) /ˌɔːtəbaɪˈɒɡrəfi/

a person’s life story written by himself or herself ● *After reading his autobiography, I appreciate the author’s ability to laugh at himself and admit his failings.*

➣ autobiographical (adj) ❖ autobiografia

* 1. **drop-out** (n) /ˈdrɒpˌaʊt/

a person who leaves a school or university without completing it ● *During the first year of university, there are a high number of drop- outs as students realise the course is not*

*for them.* ➣ drop out (phr v) ❖ studente che abbandona gli studi

* 1. **novelist** (n) /ˈnɒvəlɪst/

an author who writes novels ● *He rose to fame as a children’s novelist and many of his books have been made into films.* ➣ novel (n)

* romanziere
  1. **folk tale** (n) /ˈfəʊk teɪl/

a traditional old story that was passed down through generations in spoken form

* + - *Folk tales can convey ethical messages from historical or fictional events.* ❖ racconto popolare
  1. **illustration** (n) /ɪləˈstreɪʃn/

a picture in a book ● *My grandma’s copy of* Alice in Wonderland *contains black and white illustrations of the characters.* ➣ illustrate (v), illustrator (n) ❖ illustrazione

* 1. **hilarious** (adj) /hɪˈlɛːrɪəs/

extremely funny ● *We laughed at the hilarious scenes in the comedy.* ❖ eslilarante

**People**

cast drop-out extra

lead actor novelist playwright

saint scoundrel

Grammar **Page 81**

* 1. **halfway** (adv) /ˌhɑːfˈweɪ/

in the middle (between two points) ● *They were only halfway home when the weather changed.* ➣ halfway (adj)

* a metà strada

Listening **Page 82**

* 1. **Don’t make me laugh!** (expr) /dəʊnt meɪk miː lɑːf/

used when you disagree about sth or think it is stupid ● ‘*I’ll never fall for his lies again.’ ‘Don’t make me laugh!’* ❖ non farmi ridere

* 1. **You can say that again!** (expr) /juː kən seɪ ðæt əˈgeɪn/

used when you agree with sth that sb said

* + - ‘*What a waste of time that film was!’ ‘You can say that again!’* ❖ Puoi ben dirlo!
  1. **each to their own** (expr) /iːʧ tʊ ðeɪr əʊn/ everybody’s taste is different ● *I don’t understand what you liked about the film, but each to their own.* ❖ i gusti sono gusti
  2. **Speak for yourself** (expr) /spiːk fə jɔːˈself/ used to say that what sb said is different from your experience or opinion ● ‘*The test was so difficult.’ ‘Speak for yourself. I found it really easy.’* ❖ parlare per sé
  3. **hit the nail on the head** (expr) /hɪt ðə neɪl ɒn ðə hed/

express what is exactly right ● *The film was awful and the reviewer’s comments hit the nail on the head*. ❖ colpire nel segno

* 1. **Tell me about it!** (expr) /tel miː əˈbaʊt ɪt/ used to express agreement when you have had the same experience ● *‘I’m fed up with seeing that ad.’ ‘Tell me about it! They show it every half hour during my favourite series!’*
* Non me ne parlare!
  1. **dedicated** (adj) /ˈdedɪkeɪtɪd/

willing to give all your time and effort (to sth/ sb) ● *He is dedicated to his work and seldom takes a day off.* ➣ dedicate (v), dedication (n)

* dedicato ✎ Syn: committed, devoted
  1. **committed** (adj) /kəˈmɪtɪd/

willing to give all your time and effort (to sth/ sb) ● *They are committed party members who will support their leader at all costs.*

➣ commit (v), commitment (n) ❖ impegnato

✎ Syn: dedicated, devoted

* 1. **bizarre** (adj) /bɪˈzɑː/

strange, weird ● *She told us a bizarre story about having seen a UFO.* ❖ bizzarro

* 1. **stunning** (adj) /ˈstʌnɪŋ/

impressive, extremely beautiful ● *The drone images of the island are absolutely stunning.*

➣ stun (v) ❖ stupendo

Speaking **Page 83**

* 1. **theme park** (n) /θiːm pɑːk/

an amusement park based on a theme

* + - *When they went to Paris, they spent a day at the* Euro Disney *theme park.* ❖ parco a tema
  1. **scenario** (n) /səˈnɑːriəʊ/

an outline description of a situation or plot

* + - *After writing her book, she presented the scenario to her publisher.* ❖ canovaccio
  1. **venue** (n) /ˈvenjuː/

the place where an event takes place

* + - *The venue for the opening performance is the King’s Theatre.* ❖ sede, locale

Use your English **Page 85**

* 1. **common knowledge** (exp) /ˈkɒmən ˈnɒlɪdʒ/ a fact that most people know ● *It is common*

*knowledge that the lead actor began his career as a stuntman.* ❖ cosa nota, dominio comune

* 1. **feature film** (n) /ˈfiːtʃə fɪlm/

a film with a complete story, not a documentary

* + - *The book was adapted as a screenplay for a two-hour feature film.* ❖ film
  1. **convey** (v) /kənˈveɪ/

communicate feelings or information ● *The film conveys an encouraging air of hope.*

* esprimere
  1. **harsh** (adj) /hɑːʃ/

cruel or unpleasant ● *The film portrays the harsh realities of war.* ➣ harshness (n)

* duro
  1. **high expectations** (n pl) /haɪ ˌekspekˈteɪʃnz/ great ambitions ● *She went to drama school with high expectations of becoming a star.*
* aspettative elevate
  1. **leading** (adj) /ˈliːdɪŋ/

first, important ● *Who is to play the leading role in the next James Bond film?* ➣ lead (v)

* principale
  1. **capture the imagination** (expr) /ˈkæpʧə ði ɪˌmædʒɪˈneɪʃn/

attract and hold your interest and make you think ● *The sci-fi series captured the imagination of viewers of all ages.*

* catturare l'immaginazione
  1. **rave review** (n) /ˌreɪv rɪˈvjuː/

a very favourable review ● *Despite some doubts before the sequel’s release, it received rave reviews and became a huge success.*

* critica entusiastica
  1. **animated** (adj) /ˈænɪmeɪtɪd/

with images made to look as if they are moving; made in cartoon form ● *The film included real actors with animated characters as the aliens.* ➣ animation (n), animate (v)

* animato
  1. **critical** (adj) /ˈkrɪtɪkl/

analytical, giving opinions on the good or bad qualities of sth ● *She wrote a critical report of the play after the opening night.* ➣ critic (n), criticise (v) ❖ critico

* 1. **sensational** (adj) /senˈseɪʃənl/ intended to excite or shock people
     + *The sensational news of their divorce quickly spread throughout the media.* ➣ sensation (n)
* sensazionale
  1. **supporting** (adj) /səˈpɔːtɪŋ/

playing an important role in a film, but not the main one ● *He won an Oscar as the best supporting actor of the year.* ➣ support (n, v)

* fare da spalla
  1. **noticeable** (adj) /ˈnəʊtɪsəbl/

easy to notice ● *There was a noticeable improvement in the team’s performance in the second half of the match.* ➣ notice (v), noticeably (adv) ❖ visibile, evidente

* 1. **minimal** (adj) /ˈmɪnɪml/

very little; the smallest possible ● *The film was produced at a minimal cost, which is evident in some of the low-quality musical scenes.*

➣ minimum (n, adj) ❖ minimo

* 1. **on the plus side** (expr) /ɒn ðə ˈplʌs ˌsaɪd/ the advantage is ● *On the plus side, the lead*

*actor Gary Oldman’s performance as Winston Churchill was stunning.* ❖ il lato positivo è che...

* 1. **extra** (n) /ˈekstrə/

an actor with a small role in a film ● *His first role was as an extra when he played a Roman soldier in a battle scene.* ❖ comparsa

**Expressions**

capture the imagination Speak for yourself. Don’t make me laugh! Tell me about it! each to their own think outside the box

hit the nail on the head You can say that again! on the plus side

Writing **Pages 86–87**

* 1. **tension** (n) /ˈtenʃn/

a feeling of excitement and suspense

* + - *The dramatic background music helped create an atmosphere of tension as the predator approached.* ➣ tense (adj)
* tensione
  1. **biopic** (n) /ˈbaɪəʊpɪk/

a biographical film ● *It was a romantic biopic based on the life of Queen Elizabeth I.*

* biopic
  1. **debatable** (adj) /dɪˈbeɪtəbl/

uncertain, questionable ● *It's debatable whether there'll be a sequel as the film received such bad reviews.* ➣ debate (n, v)

* opinabile
  1. **dreadful** (adj) /ˈdredfl/

awful, unpleasant ● *It was such a disappointment because the acting was dreadful.* ❖ terribile

* 1. **encounter** (n) /ɪnˈkaʊntə(r)/

a meeting which may be unexpected ● *I was still quite shaken an hour after my sudden encounter with the large snake.*

➣ encounter (v) ❖ incontro

* 1. **stubbornly** (adv) /ˈstʌbənli/

in a determined way ● *She stubbornly refused to listen to her parents’ advice.* ➣ stubborn (adj) ❖ ostinatamente

* 1. **knowledgable** (adj) /ˈnɒlɪʤəbl/

who knows many things ● *Orson Welles was very knowledgable about filming techniques.*

➣ knowledge (n) ❖ esperto ✎ Also: knowledgeable

* 1. **devoted** (adj) /dɪˈvəʊtɪd/

very loving or caring about sb/sth ● *The writer was a devoted animal lover, who highlighted the close bonds between the main character and his horse.* ➣ devote (v), devotion (n)

* devoto ✎ Syn: committed, dedicated

Live well, study well

# Page 88

* 1. **think outside the box** (expr)

/θɪŋk aʊtˈsaɪd ðə bɒks/

think differently from the most common way

* + - *Thinking outside the box, they decided to move out of the city and start their own farm.*
* pensare fuori dagli schemi
  1. **chore** (n) /tʃɔː(r)/

a necessary routine job which may be boring or unpleasant ● *Adapting the novel as a screenplay was a difficult chore.*

* compito, incombenza
  1. **open-minded** (adj) /ˌəʊpən ˈmaɪndɪd/ willing to consider or accept new ideas
     + *Until the nineteenth century, society in general was not open-minded enough to accept female writers.* ➣ open-mindedness (n)
* di mente aperta
  1. **imaginative** (adj) /ɪˈmædʒɪnətɪv/

creative and using imagination ● *Despite the film’s low budget, the producer’s imaginative use of lighting and sound made it a success.*

➣ imagination (n), imaginatively (adv)

* fantasioso ✎ Opp: unimaginative
  1. **obstacle** (n) /ˈɒbstəkl/

sth that blocks your progress ● *Her main obstacle was finding a publisher to accept her first book.* ❖ ostacolo

* 1. **engaging** (adj) /ɪnˈɡeɪdʒɪŋ/ interesting; holding people’s attention
     + *It was an engaging tale of rags to riches with an unexpected ending.* ➣ engage (v), engagement (n) ❖ coinvolgente
  2. **inclusive** (adj) /ɪnˈkluːsɪv/

including people of all types and backgrounds

* + - *The sports centre has adapted its facilities to be more inclusive for people of all levels of physical ability.* ➣ inclusion (n), inclusively (adv) ❖ inclusivo ✎ Opp: exclusive
  1. **doodle** (n) /ˈduːdl/

a drawing you make when you are thinking about sth else ● *He drew doodles of random designs on his notebook during the seminar.*

➣ doodle (v) ❖ scarabocchio

* 1. **abstract** (adj) /ˈæbstrækt/

unclear or not practical ● *The image represented the abstract concepts of freedom and hope.* ➣ abstract (n) ❖ astratto

* 1. **visualise** (v) /ˈvɪʒuəlaɪz/

imagine how sb/sth looks ● *I could visualise how the cast would look wearing their costumes on stage.* ➣ visualisation (n)

* visualizzare

**The arts: compound nouns**

backdrop motion picture

backstory opening night

blockbuster rave review

box office screenplay

dress rehearsal soundtrack

feature film spotlight

folk tale theme park

graphic novel leading role masterpiece

**The arts: other nouns**

adaptation autobiography biopic

climax doodle

genre illustration interval narrative realism

scenario sci-fi sequel venue

**The arts: adjectives**

abstract animated award-winning bizarre committed critical debatable dedicated

dreadful engaging gripping harsh hilarious imaginative inclusive knowledgable

minimal noticeable open-minded sensational stunning supporting