

## TV and film by Catherine Zgouras

**Age:** Teenagers  
**Level:** Pre-intermediate  
**Time:** 60 minutes  
**Objectives:** To learn about TV and film; to practise irregular verbs and the past simple  
**Key skills:** Reading and speaking  
**Materials:** One copy of the worksheet per student; pictures of different James Bond films and actors (optional)

### Procedure

**Note:** This lesson plan can be split into two lessons. The stars (\*\*\*\*\*) after Activity 4 show where this can be done.

- Have pupils look at pictures of James Bond. Ask them:
  - What do you know about James Bond?*
  - Which James Bond films have you seen?*
  - What music do you associate with the films?*
- Hand out the worksheet. Have pupils read the fact file. When they have finished, explain any unknown words.
- Ask pupils to cover their worksheets or place them face down on the table and to tell you what they remember from the fact file.
- Have pupils look at the fact file again. Ask them what they found most interesting about it.
- Quiz pupils: ask what the following numbers in the fact file represent.
  - 1953 (Ian Fleming wrote the first James Bond novel, *Casino Royale*.)
  - 1954 (CBS made *Casino Royale* into a mini-series.)
  - 1962 (The first film James Bond film, *Dr No*, came out.)
  - 1964 (Ian Fleming died.)
  - 1968 ('My name is Bond ... James Bond' entered the lexicon of popular culture.)
  - four (The BBC adapted four James Bond novels for the radio in 1990.)
  - four billion (James Bond has made over four billion dollars at the box office.)
  - 23 (So far, there have been twenty-three films.)
- Ask pupils to read the fact file again and underline all the irregular verbs. Then, have them complete

the table on the worksheet with the irregular verb forms from the text. You may want to point out that *sung* is the past participle and that the past simple form is *sang*.

### Key:

infinitive	irregular form from text
write	wrote
make	made
win	won
come	came
drive	drove
become	became
sing	sung

- Have pupils complete the second exercise. Then, ask a volunteer to read out the correct answers.
 

**Key:** Ian Fleming wrote **twelve** James Bond novels.; *Casino Royale* was made into a **mini-series**.; *The first comic strip* appeared in the Daily Express.; **Live and Let Die** won an Oscar for best song.; *The BBC adapted James Bond for the radio* in 1990.
- Have students make incorrect sentences about the text for the class to correct.
- Read through the dialogue. Then, ask pupils to complete Activity 3.
 

**Key:** a. horror; b. western; c. comedy; d. science fiction; e. crime; f. drama; g. romance; h. adventure
- Put pupils in pairs and have them write a dialogue similar to the one in the previous activity.
 

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- Ask students to brainstorm some popular TV shows. Which are their favourites and why? Students should then complete the list of programmes in Activity 5 with more examples for each programme type. They can do this alone or in pairs.
- Tell students that they are now judges and they must decide which of the TV shows they have listed wins the "Best TV Show of the Year" award. Direct students to Activity 6 where they can make notes to justify their choice. Which, in their opinion, is the best TV show and why?
- Have pupils present their ideas to the class. Vote for the best TV show. Is there an outright winner?

**JAMES BOND – FACT FILE**

- Ian Fleming wrote the first James Bond novel, *Casino Royale*, in 1953. Altogether, he wrote twelve James Bond novels.
- In 1954, CBS made *Casino Royale* into a mini-series.
- The first comic strip of James Bond appeared in the *Daily Express* in 1958.
- *Dr No* was the first James Bond film. It came out in 1962.
- Ian Fleming died in 1964.
- 'My name is Bond ... James Bond' entered the lexicon of popular culture in 1968.
- The Bond theme song *Live and Let Die*, sung by Paul McCartney, won an Oscar for best song in 1973.
- The BBC adapted four James Bond novels for the radio in 1990.
- The first car James Bond drove was a Bentley but his most famous car is the Aston Martin DB5.
- Sean Connery, who was once a milkman, and Roger Moore became international stars after playing James Bond.
- Over one quarter of the world's population know who James Bond is.
- James Bond has made over four billion dollars at the box office.
- So far, there have been twenty-three James Bond films.

**1. Complete the table with the irregular verbs.**

infinitive	irregular form from text
write	
make	
win	
come	
drive	
become	
sing	

**2. Correct the sentences.**

Ian Fleming wrote twenty-three James Bond novels.

*Casino Royale* was made into a film.

The first novel appeared in the *Daily Express*.

'My name is Bond ... James Bond' won an award for best song.

The BBC adapted James Bond for the television in 1990.

## Dialogue

Two friends are trying to decide what film to watch.

- A** We could see *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*. It's an old western.
- B** I saw that a few weeks ago with my dad.
- A** Did you like it?
- B** It found it boring. Too many cowboys and horses. I prefer horror films. Let's get *Friday the 13th*. It's a classic.
- A** I watched it last night on TV. It didn't scare me at all.
- B** Well, what about a comedy with Jim Carrey?
- A** Again? We rented a comedy last week. How about *Star Wars*?
- B** No, not science fiction again. And no more adventure films, please. Let's get something different.
- A** Well, what's left? What about this one, *A Love Story*? Ha, ha!
- B** Yuk! Not a romance. No way. How about one with crime or a drama?
- A** I know! *Silence of the Lambs* with Jodie Foster and Anthony Hopkins. It won Oscars for best actress, actor and director in 1992.
- B** It's also a horror film. Wicked – let's get it.

### 3. Find the words from the text that refer to each type of film.

- a. a film that makes you feel afraid \_\_\_\_\_
- b. a film with cowboys \_\_\_\_\_
- c. a funny film \_\_\_\_\_
- d. a film with aliens and about space \_\_\_\_\_
- e. a film about murders, thieves and robbers \_\_\_\_\_
- f. a film that is serious \_\_\_\_\_
- g. a love story \_\_\_\_\_
- h. an action film \_\_\_\_\_

4. You are at the cinema with a friend. Write a short dialogue like the one above, discussing what you will see. You can use the film ideas below or your own.

*Ninja's Return* – adventure

*House of Thieves* – crime / drama

*Meet My Parents* – comedy / romance

*Star Planets* – science fiction

5. Complete the list of programmes with examples of your own.

### CBN Awards for the Best TV Shows

#### Documentaries

*Life on Earth*

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#### Sitcoms

*Friends*

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#### Talent shows

*The Voice*

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#### Soap operas

*Days of Our Lives*

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#### News shows

*Live at Nine*

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#### Cartoons

*The Simpsons*

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#### Sports

*Sunday Night Football*

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6. You are a judge. Decide which TV show should win the Best TV Show of the Year award. Make notes to explain your choice.

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