

Before you watch**1 SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Answer the questions.

- 1 Who are your favourite film and book characters? Why?
- 2 Do you know any of Charles Dickens's books? If so, which ones?
- 3 Have you seen any James Bond films? If yes, which ones?

Comprehension check**2**  Watch the DVD clip. Are the sentences true or false?

- 1 Charles Dickens lived in the last century. **true / false**
- 2 James Bond was originally a character in a Charles Dickens novel. **true / false**
- 3 Ian Fleming came from a rich family. **true / false**
- 4 He worked as a journalist during the Second World War. **true / false**
- 5 Sean Connery played James Bond in the first Bond film. **true / false**

3  Watch again. Choose the correct words.

- 1 Charles Dickens had a **long beard / long hair**.
- 2 The DVD clip shows the Charles Dickens **Library / Museum** in London.
- 3 Ian Fleming was born in a large **terraced / detached** house in London.
- 4 At Eton College, students wear old-fashioned black **suits / shirts**.
- 5 Goldeneye, Fleming's house in Jamaica, is by **the beach / the mountains**.
- 6 Fleming wrote his novels **by hand / on a typewriter**.

4  Watch again. Number the events (A–H) in the order that they happened.

- A ___ Goldeneye was built in Jamaica.
- B ___ The Second World War started.
- C ___ Fleming went to Eton College.
- D ___ Fleming died.
- E ___ *Casino Royale* was published.
- F ___ Fleming became a journalist.
- G ___ Fleming joined the British secret service.
- H ___ The first Bond film was made.

Round up**5 SPEAKING** Work in groups. Answer the questions.

Have you seen the latest James Bond film? If so, did you enjoy it? If not, would you like to see it? Why? / Why not?

Vocabulary

6 **RECYCLE** Complete the text with the words below.

created dramas directed novels plays wrote

Wolf Hall

Some critics are already saying that *Wolf Hall* is the one of the best TV ¹ _____ ever made. It was based on the ² _____ that Hilary Mantel ³ _____ about the life of Thomas Cromwell, who was one of Henry VIII's most important advisors. Damian Lewis, who you might recognise from the American TV series *Homeland*, ⁴ _____ King Henry. Peter Kosminsky ⁵ _____ the series, and along with the actors, designers and crew, he has ⁶ _____ a brilliant, atmospheric drama which is going to become a classic.

7 Complete the sentences with the words below.

adaptations blockbuster influenced phenomenon released

- 1 There have been lots of excellent TV _____ of the Sherlock Holmes stories.
- 2 His new novel was _____ by the experience he had in the army.
- 3 The next James Bond film will be _____ later in the year.
- 4 The Harry Potter series was a huge _____ in the book world.
- 5 Benedict Cumberbatch stars in the new _____, *Doctor Strange*.

Extension

8 Work in pairs. Think of a film that you have seen recently, do some research about it and then make a presentation about it. Include the following:

- information about the director, actors, locations
- a summary of the story
- your opinion of the film
- who you would recommend it to

9 Give your presentation to the class. Use the key phrases for stating an opinion and introducing a preference.

Stating an opinion

I'm a big fan of ...
I'm really keen on ...
I really can't stand ...
I'm not a big fan of ...

Introducing a preference

I must say, ...
To be honest, ...
To be frank, ...
Personally, ...

DVD clip summary

The DVD clip is about the life of Ian Fleming, author of the James Bond series of novels.

Background

Ian Fleming's inspiration for the James Bond series of novels came from his own experience working in the Naval Intelligence Division during the Second World War. Bond is an officer in the Secret Intelligence Service, which is usually known as MI6 (Military Intelligence, Section 6). MI6 is responsible for supplying the British government with information and intelligence about foreign countries. During the time that Fleming was writing his novels, Britain had just fought the Second World War with Germany and was becoming engaged in the Cold War with the Soviet Union. These two themes are reflected in a number of the James Bond novels. In particular, the 'baddies', or evil characters, are often German or Russian or have links to those countries.

Before you watch

Exercise 1

- Read the questions with the class and elicit answers from individual students. Encourage the students to expand on their answers and use their suggestions to start a class discussion.
- **Answers:** Students' own answers

Comprehension check

Exercise 2

- **Pre-watching:** Go through the questions with the students.
-  Play the whole DVD clip. The students choose the correct answers. Check their answers.
- **Answers:** 1 false 2 false 3 true 4 false 5 true

Exercise 3

- **Pre-watching:** Ask the students to read the sentences and to try and remember which things they saw in the DVD clip.
-  Play the DVD clip to check the answers.
- **Answers:** 1 a long beard 2 Museum 3 terraced 4 suits 5 the beach 6 on a typewriter

Exercise 4

- **Pre-watching:** Ask the students to try and order the events before they watch the DVD clip again.
- **Weaker classes:** Play the DVD clip first and pause after each answer.
-  Play the DVD clip to check the answers.
- **Answers:** 1 C 2 F 3 B 4 G 5 A 6 E 7 H 8 D

Round up

Exercise 5

- Put the students in groups. Give them a few minutes to discuss the questions.
- **Answers:** Students' own answers

Vocabulary

Exercise 6

- Ask the students to read through the text first, then complete the sentences.
- **Weaker classes:** Elicit the meanings of the words first.
- **Answers:** 1 dramas 2 novels 3 wrote 4 plays 5 directed 6 created

Exercise 7

- Ask the students to read through the sentences first, then complete them. With a **weaker class**, you could elicit the meanings of the words first.
- **Answers:** 1 adaptations 2 influenced 3 released 4 phenomenon 5 blockbuster

Extension

Exercises 8 and 9

- **Materials needed:** Computers with internet access
- **Preparation:** Put the students in pairs. Tell them that they are going to make a presentation about a film they have seen recently.
- **Language:** Ask the class, 'What do you think of (a film they have all seen)?' Elicit and focus on the key phrases.
- **Activity:** Give the students 5 minutes to use the internet to research their film. Then give them another 5 minutes to write their presentation, making sure they include all the information in the task. Finally, ask the pairs to present their films to the class.
- **Extension:** After all the pairs have presented, ask the students to discuss which of the films they have seen, which they liked and did not like, and whether they plan to see any of the films recommended to them by the other students.

Ian Fleming and James Bond

In the 19th century, the novelist and poet Charles Dickens was one of the most famous people on the planet. His stories were read by people all over the world, and he created some of the best-loved characters in modern fiction. Dickens's fame has lasted long after his death and today his novels and short stories are still read by millions, although a lot of people know most of his characters from TV dramas and film adaptations of his work.

Many classic movie characters originally appeared in novels, including the world's most famous spy, James Bond. Almost everybody has heard of Bond, but few people know anything about the man who created him.

Ian Fleming was born in London in 1908. His family were very wealthy, and the young Fleming went to the world-famous boarding school, Eton College, when he was only thirteen. Fleming lived here for most of the year, wearing the same old-fashioned uniform pupils still wear today. He was extremely privileged and while he was at school he lived in beautiful buildings, surrounded by luxuries. But like all Eton students, he was only allowed home during the holidays. Fleming wasn't a good student and he didn't always enjoy school, but he excelled at sports and made many friends.

When Fleming left school he decided to become a journalist, but when the Second World War broke out, he was recruited to work for the British secret service. Here, Fleming learned everything he could about the life of spies, and the experience influenced a lot of his later work.

After the war, Fleming had a holiday home built in Jamaica, which he called 'Goldeneye' – the name of a later Bond film. He spent a lot of time here, telling friends he wanted to write a spy novel. He didn't write anything for a while, but then, in 1952, he completed his first book, *Casino Royale*. It was a huge success and was read by people all over the world.

After this success, Fleming went to Jamaica for two months every year to write a new James Bond novel. Each new novel increased Bond's popularity and during this time Fleming enjoyed huge success as a writer. James Bond quickly became an icon.

In 1962, the first Bond film, *Dr. No*, was released, with the actor Sean Connery playing the lead role. Suddenly, Bond and his creator were world-famous, and Fleming couldn't go anywhere without people asking him about 007.

Fleming died in 1964, but the Bond phenomenon has continued to grow. While many people still enjoy reading Ian Fleming's original Bond novels, millions more go to the cinema to watch the films. The latest film, *Spectre*, starring Daniel Craig as Bond and directed by Sam Mendes, is the 24th Bond film to be made. These big-budget blockbusters look very different from the early films and are no longer based on Fleming's novels, but they all still have one crucial thing in common: the character of James Bond.