

E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial (C1)

A – Before you start

Answer the questions with a partner.

1. Do you like science-fiction films?
2. If so, which is your favourite?
3. What do you know about Steven Spielberg?
4. Have you seen his film *E.T.*? If so, what did you think of it?
5. Can you name any other Spielberg films?

B – Listen and answer

Read these statements. Then listen (without reading) and write T (true) or F (false).

1. *E.T.* was similar to Steven Spielberg's earlier films.
2. The human protagonists of the story are three children whose parents are divorced.
3. The alien they encounter is a scientist.
4. Making the film turned Spielberg against the idea of having a family.
5. For artist Carlo Rambaldi, this was a first attempt at inventing a creature from another planet.
6. Spielberg had the idea for the film while he was on holiday in Tunisia.
7. Spielberg's experiences as a child made him able to empathise with Elliot, the main character.
8. He feels that Elliot and *E.T.* bonded because they needed each other.

C – Read and answer

Read the article and answer the questions.

1. What was different about the film's treatment of its young audiences?
2. What was Spielberg influenced by at the time when he decided to make the movie?
3. How did he adapt his filming methods to suit the age of the actors?
4. What special powers does *E.T.* have?
5. What explanation is there for the continued popularity of the film?
6. What part of another film inspired Spielberg to create *E.T.*?
7. What was Melissa Mathison's initial reaction to getting involved in the writing of the screenplay?
8. How does Spielberg define the film?

D – Learn it! Use it!

Complete these sentences with words from the glossary. (You may have to adapt the expression in some way; e.g. change the subject, or change from singular to plural.)

1. Sarah was sure she'd seen that actor in another film, but she couldn't _____ which one.
2. Our new manager is popular because she's very practical and _____.
3. You need to call a builder. This wall doesn't look safe. A number of the _____ are loose.
4. Jake's mother didn't approve of his girlfriend because she came from a poor _____.
5. The *Lord of the Rings* trilogy was _____ on location in New Zealand.
6. I searched everywhere for my passport and _____ found it in the pocket of my suitcase.

E – Ready for the C1 ADVANCED English Test? (Reading and Use of English, Part 4)

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. Use between 3 and 6 words including the word given.

Example: The events of the film take place in a California suburb.

SET The film *is set in* a California suburb.

1. Elliot finds life difficult because his father is absent.

STRUGGLES Elliot _____ of his father.

2. In speaking directly to young audiences, *E.T.* differed from other movies of the time.

SPOKE *E.T.* _____, _____ other movies of the time.

3. The alien is an intergalactic botanist. Elliot later gives him the name *E.T.*

NAMES The alien, _____, is an intergalactic botanist.

4. Under President Ronald Reagan, the US government spent less on space programs.

SPENDING US President Ronald Reagan had _____ on space programs.

5. Like children, *E.T.* is curious and is open to learning.

HAS *E.T.* _____ and an openness to learn.

6. Harrison Ford persuaded his wife to write the screenplay for *E.T.*

TALKED Harrison Ford _____ writing the screenplay for *E.T.*

F – Talk about it

In pairs or groups.

1. Do you believe that there was once life on other planets in our solar system? If so, which ones?
2. Do you think there's probably life on planets outside our solar system? If so, what kind of life?
3. In your opinion, will it be possible for humans to live on other planets one day?
4. Would you like to travel to other planets? Why (not)?

Answers

B – Listen and answer

1. F – Compared to his previous films, it was very down-to-earth and it had children as its protagonists. 2. T 3. T 4. F – He was against having a family, but while making the film he changed his mind. 5. F – He had already made the creature in the film *Alien*. 6. F – He was making a film there. 7. T 8. T

C – Read and answer

1. It treated them with respect, the way adult audiences are usually treated. 2. He was influenced by the political context. 3. The film was shot in chronological order and the camera was placed at their height. They were also allowed to adlib. 4. He can heal and bring dying plants back to life. 5. It continues to move people of all ages and backgrounds. 6. The end of *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. 7. She was reluctant to get involved in it. 8. He defines it as a rescue movie.

D – Learn it! Use it!

1. recall 2. down-to-earth 3. bricks 4. background 5. shot 6. eventually

E – Ready for the C1 ADVANCED English Test?

1. struggles with the absence/struggles because of the absence 2. spoke directly to young audiences, unlike 3. who/whom Elliot later names E.T. 4. reduced/cut government spending 5. has a childlike curiosity 6. talked his wife into