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Movie screenplays released as eBooks

1st May, 2012

http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1205/120501-e_books.html

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THE ARTICLE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1205/120501-e_books.html

If you are a movie fan and you like studying English, you might just be interested in the latest initiative of the Hollywood movie studio Warner Brothers. The company has released a series of screenplays of its classic movies as eBooks. The scripts are full of images, diagrams and facts in addition to the conversations and dialogues from the films. Now English students can read up on the movie and read along while they watch it. The digital scripts also give English teachers a valuable new tool to use in the classroom. Many students like to learn English via movies. The eBooks are currently on sale on Amazon.com at around \$8. The books can be downloaded on Apple's iBookstore and are available for the Nook eBook reader.

So far only a small selection of movie scripts have been released. These include An American in Paris, Ben Hur, Casablanca and North by Northwest. President of Warner Brothers digital distribution Thomas Gewecke explained why he thinks the new products will prove popular: "People love movies because of the stories they tell," he said. "Now we can give fans rarely seen details of how these stories came together and take their enjoyment of films to a whole new level," he added. Mr Gewecke said the eBooks are just for classic movies at the moment but that books for newer movies will be released in the future. It will be some time however before the eBook coincides with the movie release.

WARM-UPS

1. E-BOOKS: Walk around the class and talk to other students about eBooks. Change partners often. Sit with your first partner(s) and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

movie fan / studying English / initiative / Hollywood / diagrams / valuable tool / selection / digital / distribution / details / enjoyment / classic movies / coincides with

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. STUDYING ENGLISH: How best to do it? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners and share what you wrote. Change and share again.

Using...	Ideas for speaking	Ideas for vocabulary
movies		
e-Books		
songs		
textbooks		
the Internet		
games		

4. DIGITAL: Students A **strongly** believe digital books will replace paper books one day; Students B **strongly** believe not. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. READING: What do you most like reading? Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners and share your rankings again.

- movie screenplays
- novels
- poems
- e-mails
- non-fiction
- grammar books
- newspaper articles
- instructions

6. QQQQQQ: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'qqqqqq'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1205/120501-e_books.html

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. The article said all English students are movie fans. | T / F |
| b. A Hollywood studio has released some of its screenplays as e-Books. | T / F |
| c. The article said teachers are a valuable classroom learning tool. | T / F |
| d. The e-Books are not yet available for download via Apple products. | T / F |
| e. Warner Brothers has released a huge selection of screenplays. | T / F |
| f. A movie exec said the screenplays will let people enjoy movies more. | T / F |
| g. The screenplay e-Books are currently just for classic movies. | T / F |
| h. There is no immediate plan to release the e-Book and movie together. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| 1. fan | a. seldom |
| 2. initiative | b. presently |
| 3. series | c. strategy |
| 4. valuable | d. entirely |
| 5. currently | e. enthusiast |
| 6. so far | f. happens together |
| 7. rarely | g. precious |
| 8. whole | h. a while |
| 9. some time | i. set |
| 10. coincides | j. until now |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. you might just | a. from the films |
| 2. classic | b. small selection |
| 3. conversations and dialogues | c. be downloaded |
| 4. a valuable new | d. prove popular |
| 5. The books can | e. at the moment |
| 6. only a | f. be interested |
| 7. the new products will | g. with the movie release |
| 8. we can give fans rarely | h. movies |
| 9. the eBooks are just for classic movies | i. tool to use |
| 10. the eBook coincides | j. seen details |

WHILE READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1205/120501-e_books.html

GAP FILL: Put the words into the gaps in the text.

If you are a movie (1) _____ and you like studying English, you might just be interested in the (2) _____ initiative of the Hollywood movie studio Warner Brothers. The company has released a (3) _____ of screenplays of its classic movies as eBooks. The scripts are full of images, diagrams and facts in (4) _____ to the conversations and dialogues from the films. Now English students can read (5) _____ on the movie and read along while they watch it. The digital scripts also give English teachers a valuable new (6) _____ to use in the classroom. Many students like to learn English (7) _____ movies. The eBooks are currently on sale on Amazon.com at around \$8. The books can be downloaded on Apple's iBookstore and are (8) _____ for the Nook eBook reader.

up
series
via
tool
fan
available
latest
addition

So far only a small (9) _____ of movie scripts have been released. These include An American in Paris, Ben Hur, Casablanca and North by Northwest. President of Warner Brothers digital distribution Thomas Gewecke (10) _____ why he thinks the new products will (11) _____ popular: "People love movies because of the stories they tell," he said. "Now we can give fans (12) _____ seen details of how these stories came together and take their enjoyment of films to a (13) _____ new level," he added. Mr Gewecke said the eBooks are just for (14) _____ movies at the moment but that books for newer movies will be (15) _____ in the future. It will be some time however before the eBook (16) _____ with the movie release.

whole
coincides
explained
rarely
classic
selection
released
prove

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1205/120501-e_books.html

If you are a movie fan and you like studying English, _____ interested in the latest initiative of the Hollywood movie studio Warner Brothers. The company has _____ of screenplays of its classic movies as eBooks. The scripts are full of images, diagrams and facts in addition to the conversations _____ the films. Now English students can read up on the movie and read _____ watch it. The digital scripts also give English teachers a _____ to use in the classroom. Many students like to learn English via movies. The eBooks are _____ on Amazon.com at around \$8. The books can be downloaded on Apple's iBookstore and are available for the Nook eBook reader.

So far only _____ of movie scripts have been released. These include An American in Paris, Ben Hur, Casablanca and North by Northwest. President of Warner Brothers digital distribution Thomas Gewecke explained why he thinks the new products _____: "People love movies because of the stories they tell," he said. "Now we can give fans _____ of how these stories came together and take their enjoyment of films to a _____," he added. Mr Gewecke said the eBooks are just for classic movies _____ but that books for newer movies will be released in the future. It will be some time however before the eBook _____ movie release.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1205/120501-e_books.html

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'screen' and 'play'.

screen	play
---------------	-------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• fan• series• full• read• tool• sale	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• small• include• explained• love• whole• release
--	--

E-BOOKS SURVEY

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1205/120501-e_books.html

Write five GOOD questions about eBooks in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

E-BOOKS & MOVIES DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'eBook'?
- c) What do you think of eBooks?
- d) Do you think eBooks will replace paper books one day?
- e) What are the advantages of eBooks over paper books?
- f) Do you like studying with movie screenplays?
- g) Do you think the screenplay eBooks will be useful for English learners?
- h) What do you think of the \$8 price tag?
- i) How useful is movie English?
- j) Is it better to learn English using movies or songs?

Movie screenplays released as eBooks – 1st May, 2012
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E-BOOKS & MOVIES DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article?
- b) What do you think of the selection of movie screenplays released?
- c) Do you think the new products will prove popular?
- d) Why do you love movies?
- e) Would you like to know more about how each movie was made?
- f) Would background knowledge of a movie make you like it more?
- g) What would take your enjoyment of films to a whole new level?
- h) Do you like classic movies?
- i) Do you prefer American movies or those from your own country?
- j) What questions would you like to ask Thomas Gewecke?

LANGUAGE – MULTIPLE CHOICE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1205/120501-e_books.html

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So far only a small selection of movie scripts have been released. These (7) _____ An American in Paris, Ben Hur, Casablanca and North by Northwest. President of Warner Brothers digital distribution Thomas Gewecke explained why he thinks the new products will (8) _____ popular: "People love movies because of the stories they (9) _____," he said. "Now we can give fans rarely seen details of how these stories came together and take their enjoyment of films to a (10) _____ new level," he added. Mr Gewecke said the eBooks are just for classic movies at the (11) _____ but that books for newer movies will be released in the future. It will be some time however before the eBook coincides (12) _____ the movie release.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) fun | (b) fin | (c) fen | (d) fan |
| 2. | (a) inaction | (b) initiated | (c) initiative | (d) intuitive |
| 3. | (a) at | (b) to | (c) of | (d) by |
| 4. | (a) up | (b) down | (c) along | (d) over |
| 5. | (a) trivia | (b) aria | (c) via | (d) diva |
| 6. | (a) voluble | (b) audible | (c) avail | (d) available |
| 7. | (a) conclude | (b) include | (c) preclude | (d) secluded |
| 8. | (a) prove | (b) proof | (c) proofread | (d) proven |
| 9. | (a) say | (b) tell | (c) speak | (d) talk |
| 10. | (a) even | (b) seldom | (c) whole | (d) entirely |
| 11. | (a) moment | (b) meantime | (c) current | (d) presently |
| 12. | (a) to | (b) at | (c) of | (d) with |

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about the screenplay eBooks. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. E-BOOKS: Make a poster about eBooks. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. SCREENPLAYS: Write a magazine article about screenplays and how they can improve your English. Include imaginary interviews with some teachers.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. LETTER: Write a letter to a Hollywood studio boss. Ask him/her three questions about screenplays on eBooks. Give him/her three of your opinions on them. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE:

a. F b. T c. F d. F e. F f. T g. T h. T

SYNONYM MATCH:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| 1. fan | a. enthusiast |
| 2. initiative | b. strategy |
| 3. series | c. set |
| 4. valuable | d. precious |
| 5. currently | e. presently |
| 6. so far | f. until now |
| 7. rarely | g. seldom |
| 8. whole | h. entirely |
| 9. some time | i. a while |
| 10. coincides | j. happens together |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. you might just | a. be interested |
| 2. classic | b. movies |
| 3. conversations and dialogues | c. from the films |
| 4. a valuable new | d. tool to use |
| 5. The books can | e. be downloaded |
| 6. only a | f. small selection |
| 7. the new products will | g. prove popular |
| 8. we can give fans rarely | h. seen details |
| 9. the eBooks are just for classic movies | i. at the moment |
| 10. the eBook coincides | j. with the movie release |

GAP FILL:

Movie screenplays released as eBooks

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LANGUAGE WORK

1 - d 2 - c 3 - b 4 - a 5 - c 6 - d 7 - b 8 - a 9 - b 10 - c 11 - a 12 - d

Movie screenplays released as eBooks – 1st May, 2012

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