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**Level 3 – 2nd June, 2022**

## **Tom Cruise's "Top Gun: Maverick" breaks records**

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

Tom Cruise's latest blockbuster film has broken box office records across America. The movie "Top Gun: Maverick" was shown in the biggest ever number of North American movie theatres. The movie magazine "Variety" reported that 4,732 cinemas in the USA and Canada showed "Maverick". This makes it the widest release of all time. The movie also broke another record. It is the best Memorial Day opening film in history. It earned \$156 million in the USA. This beats Johnny Depp's "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End". That movie earned \$153 million in 2007. Maverick has also given Hollywood superstar Tom Cruise his first ever \$100 million opening weekend at the box office.

Maverick is the sequel to the 1986 film "Top Gun". Cruise goes back to his role as US navy pilot Pete "Maverick" Mitchell. The movie's production company Paramount was very happy that "Maverick" had done so well. Chris Aronson, president of domestic distribution, said: "These results are ridiculously, over-the-top fantastic. I'm happy for everyone. I'm happy for the company, for Tom, and for the filmmakers." The movie has had rave reviews from critics. The "Independent" in the UK called it a "thrilling" blockbuster. Another UK newspaper, "The Telegraph," called it "absurdly exciting," and "unquestionably the best studio action film in years". At first, Cruise did not want to make the sequel. Now, he is happy he did.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-61630131>  
<https://www.vanityfair.com/hollywood/2022/05/top-gun-maverick-breaks-box-office-records>  
<https://www.foxnews.com/entertainment/top-gun-maverick-memorial-day-box-office-tom-cruise-movie>

# WARM-UPS

**1. MOVIES:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about movies. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

blockbuster / box office / records / movie / number / magazine / history / pirates / sequel / navy / pilot / president / domestic / fantastic / reviews / thrilling / exciting

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

**3. MOVIE THEATRES:** Students A **strongly** believe movie theatres are the best place to watch movies; Students B **strongly** believe it's best to watch movies at home. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. BLOCKBUSTER MOVIES:** What do you know about these movies? What made them so popular? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	Why They Are So Good
Top Gun		
Titanic		
Mission Impossible		
Batman / Joker		
Harry Potter		
Star Wars		

**5. OFFICE:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "office". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. MOVIE GENRES:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best movie genres at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Action
- Fantasy
- Horror
- Romance
- Science fiction
- Comedy
- Mystery
- Animation

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 1. blockbuster | a. The action of making a film, recording, or other product available to the public.                              |
| 2. record      | b. A very, very famous and successful performer or sports player.   |
| 3. magazine    | c. A thing of great power or size, in particular a film, book, or other product that makes a lot of money.        |
| 4. release     | d. A collection of writing, articles and pictures often on a particular subject that is sold every week or month. |
| 5. earned      | e. The best, fastest, most perfect, worst... performance of its kind.   |
| 6. beat        | f. Money got from paid work.  |
| 7. superstar   | g. Defeat someone in a game or other competitive situation.   |

## Paragraph 2

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| 8. sequel          | h. An actor's part in a play, film, etc.                                     |
| 9. role            | i. A person who operates the flying controls of an aircraft.                 |
| 10. pilot          | j. A person whose job is to talk about how good or bad movies and books are. |
| 11. domestic       | k. A movie or book that continues the story of an earlier one.               |
| 12. over-the-top   | l. In a way that nobody can say it isn't true.                               |
| 13. critic         | m. Too much; very, very, very.   |
| 14. unquestionably | n. Happening inside a country; not foreign or international.                 |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

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

1. The latest Tom Cruise movie broke a box office. **T / F**
2. Tom Cruises' new movie played in over 4,700 cinemas in North America. **T / F**
3. Top Gun: Maverick did not earn as much as Pirates of the Caribbean. **T / F**
4. Cruise never had a \$100 million opening weekend before this movie. **T / F**
5. Top Gun: Maverick is the prequel to the 2006 Top Gun movie. **T / F**
6. The producers were happy for Tom Cruise and all the filmmakers. **T / F**
7. Top Gun: Maverick got bad reviews from movie critics. **T / F**
8. Cruise was always very enthusiastic about making the movie. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                           |                  |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| 1. <b>latest</b>          | a. ratings       |
| 2. <b>movie theatre</b>   | b. made          |
| 3. <b>reported</b>        | c. betters       |
| 4. <b>earned</b>          | d. cinema        |
| 5. <b>beats</b>           | e. national      |
| 6. <b>role</b>            | f. announced     |
| 7. <b>domestic</b>        | g. exciting      |
| 8. <b>reviews</b>         | h. most recent   |
| 9. <b>thrilling</b>       | i. without doubt |
| 10. <b>unquestionably</b> | j. part          |

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

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. Cruise's latest blockbuster film has broken box | a. history               |
| 2. 4,732 cinemas in the USA and Canada             | b. \$153 million in 2007 |
| 3. This makes it the widest release                | c. thrilling blockbuster |
| 4. the best Memorial Day opening film in           | d. top                   |
| 5. That movie earned                               | e. showed "Maverick"     |
| 6. U.S. navy                                       | f. in years              |
| 7. over-the-                                       | g. of all time           |
| 8. The movie has had rave reviews                  | h. pilot                 |
| 9. The "Independent" in the UK called it a         | i. office records        |
| 10. unquestionably the best studio action film     | j. from critics          |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

Tom Cruise's latest (1) \_\_\_\_\_ film has broken box office records across America. The movie "Top Gun: Maverick" was shown in the biggest (2) \_\_\_\_\_ number of North American movie theatres. The movie magazine "Variety" reported that 4,732 cinemas in the USA and Canada (3) \_\_\_\_\_ "Maverick". This makes it the widest release of all (4) \_\_\_\_\_. The movie also broke another record. It is the best Memorial Day (5) \_\_\_\_\_ film in history. It earned \$156 million in the USA. This (6) \_\_\_\_\_ Johnny Depp's "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End". That movie (7) \_\_\_\_\_ \$153 million in 2007. Maverick has also given Hollywood superstar Tom Cruise his (8) \_\_\_\_\_ ever \$100 million opening weekend at the box office.

*showed*  
*blockbuster*  
*beats*  
*ever*  
*first*  
*opening*  
*time*  
*earned*

Maverick is the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ to the 1986 film "Top Gun". Cruise goes back to his role as US navy (10) \_\_\_\_\_ Pete "Maverick" Mitchell. The movie's production company Paramount was very happy that "Maverick" had done so (11) \_\_\_\_\_. Chris Aronson, president of domestic distribution, said: "These results are (12) \_\_\_\_\_, over-the-top fantastic. I'm happy for everyone. I'm happy for the company, for Tom, and for the (13) \_\_\_\_\_." The movie has had (14) \_\_\_\_\_ reviews from critics. The "Independent" in the UK called it a "thrilling" blockbuster. Another UK newspaper, "The Telegraph," called it "absurdly (15) \_\_\_\_\_," and "unquestionably the best studio action film in (16) \_\_\_\_\_". At first, Cruise did not want to make the sequel. Now, he is happy he did.

*pilot*  
*filmmakers*  
*sequel*  
*years*  
*ridiculously*  
*exciting*  
*well*  
*rave*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

- 1) Tom Cruise's latest blockbuster film has broken box office \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. record across America
  - b. reckons across America
  - c. accords across America
  - d. records across America
- 2) The movie "Top Gun: Maverick" was shown in the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. biggest never number
  - b. biggest ever number
  - c. biggest even number
  - d. biggest every number
- 3) The movie magazine "Variety" reported \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. that 4,732 cinema
  - b. that 4,732 sinner mas
  - c. that 4,732 sin amass
  - d. that 4,732 cinemas
- 4) It is the best Memorial Day opening \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. film in history
  - b. film on history
  - c. film at history
  - d. film as history
- 5) his first ever \$100 million opening weekend at \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the boxing office
  - b. the box offers
  - c. the box off fist
  - d. the box office
- 6) the 1986 film "Top Gun". Cruise goes back to his role as \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. US navy pilot
  - b. US neigh V-pilot
  - c. US navy pilot
  - d. US nay vie pilot
- 7) Paramount was very happy that "Maverick" had \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. done swell
  - b. done sow well
  - c. done sew well
  - d. done so well
- 8) These results are ridiculously, over-\_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the-stop fantastic
  - b. the-atop fantastic
  - c. the-top fantastic
  - d. that-top fantastic
- 9) The movie has had rave \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. review from critics
  - b. reviews from critics
  - c. reviews from critic
  - d. review from critic
- 10) absurdly exciting and unquestionably the best studio action \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. film on years
  - b. film at years
  - c. film in years
  - d. film of years

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

Tom Cruise's latest blockbuster (1) \_\_\_\_\_ box office records across America. The movie "Top Gun: Maverick" was shown in the biggest (2) \_\_\_\_\_ North American movie theatres. The movie magazine "Variety" reported that 4,732 cinemas in the USA and Canada showed "Maverick". (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the widest release of all time. The movie also broke another record. It is the best Memorial Day opening (4) \_\_\_\_\_. It earned \$156 million in the USA. This beats Johnny Depp's "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End". (5) \_\_\_\_\_ \$153 million in 2007. Maverick has also given Hollywood superstar Tom Cruise (6) \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 million opening weekend at the box office.

Maverick is (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the 1986 film "Top Gun". Cruise goes back to his role as (8) \_\_\_\_\_ Pete "Maverick" Mitchell. The movie's production company Paramount was very happy that "Maverick" had (9) \_\_\_\_\_. Chris Aronson, president of domestic distribution, said: "These results are ridiculously, over-the-top fantastic. I'm happy for everyone. I'm happy for the company, for Tom, and for the filmmakers." The movie has (10) \_\_\_\_\_ from critics. The "Independent" in the UK called it a "thrilling" blockbuster. Another UK newspaper, "The Telegraph," called it "absurdly exciting," and "unquestionably the (11) \_\_\_\_\_ film in years". At first, Cruise did not want to (12) \_\_\_\_\_. Now, he is happy he did.



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

1. What kind of records did the new Tom Cruise movie break?
2. How many movie theatres showed the movie?
3. How much did the movie earn in its opening weekend?
4. When was the movie 'Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End' released?
5. What did Tom Cruise achieve for the first time with this movie?
6. What job does Tom Cruise do in his role in the new movie?
7. How did the producers of the new movie feel?
8. What did the newspaper the "Independent" call the movie?
9. Who said the movie was the best action movie in years?
10. How did Tom Cruise initially feel about making the movie?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

- 1) What kind of records did the new Tom Cruise movie break?
  - a) athletics records
  - b) vinyl records
  - c) box office records
  - d) stunt records
- 2) How many movie theatres showed the movie?
  - a) 4,732
  - b) 7,432
  - c) 4,372
  - d) 3,743
- 3) How much did the movie earn in its opening weekend?
  - a) \$155 million
  - b) \$156 million
  - c) \$158 million
  - d) \$157 million
- 4) When was the movie 'Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End' released?
  - a) 1907
  - b) 1997
  - c) 2017
  - d) 2007
- 5) What did Tom Cruise achieve for the first time with this movie?
  - a) fame
  - b) an Oscar
  - c) a \$100 million opening weekend
  - d) a score of 10/10
- 6) What job does Tom Cruise do in his role in the new movie?
  - a) sailor
  - b) US navy pilot
  - c) engineer
  - d) movie producer
- 7) How did the producers of the new movie feel?
  - a) overjoyed
  - b) awe-inspired
  - c) ecstatic
  - d) happy
- 8) What did the newspaper the "Independent" call the movie?
  - a) a telegraph
  - b) a thrilling blockbuster
  - c) a rave review
  - d) a harsh critic
- 9) Who said the movie was the best action movie in years?
  - a) CNN
  - b) the Telegraph newspaper
  - c) the New York Post
  - d) the BBC
- 10) How did Tom Cruise initially feel about making the movie?
  - a) He didn't want to make it.
  - b) happy
  - c) very, very positive
  - d) undecided

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

## **Role A – Action**

You think action is the best movie genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the least enjoyable of these (and why): comedy, romance or science fiction.

## **Role B – Comedy**

You think comedy is the best movie genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the least enjoyable of these (and why): action, romance or science fiction.

## **Role C – Romance**

You think romance is the best movie genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the least enjoyable of these (and why): comedy, action or science fiction.

## **Role D – Science Fiction**

You think science fiction is the best movie genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the least enjoyable of these (and why): comedy, romance or action.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

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

<b>movie</b>	<b>theatre</b>
--------------	----------------

- 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"><li>• latest</li><li>• magazine</li><li>• widest</li><li>• best</li><li>• beats</li><li>• given</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1986</li><li>• well</li><li>• top</li><li>• rave</li><li>• exciting</li><li>• happy</li></ul>
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# MOVIES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

Write five GOOD questions about movies 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.

# MOVIES DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'movie'?
3. What are your favourite movies?
4. Do you want to see the latest Tom Cruise movie?
5. What do you think of Tom Cruise?
6. What do you think of action movies?
7. Do you like going to the movie theater?
8. Is Top Gun better than Pirates of the Caribbean?
9. Who is the better actor, Tom Cruise or Johnny Depp?
10. Why do we like movies so much?

*Tom Cruise's "Top Gun: Maverick" breaks records – 2nd June, 2022*  
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# MOVIES DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'theatre'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Are sequels and prequels ever better than the original?
15. Who are you happy for?
16. What is the best movie you've seen this year?
17. Would you like to be a movie star?
18. Which country makes the best movies?
19. What's the worst movie you've ever seen?
20. What questions would you like to ask Tom Cruise?

## DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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## DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

Tom Cruise's (1) \_\_\_\_\_ blockbuster film has broken box office records across America. The movie "Top Gun: Maverick" was (2) \_\_\_\_\_ in the biggest ever number of North American movie theatres. The movie magazine "Variety" reported that 4,732 cinemas (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the USA and Canada showed "Maverick". This makes it the widest release of all time. The movie also broke (4) \_\_\_\_\_ record. It is the best Memorial Day opening film (5) \_\_\_\_\_ history. It earned \$156 million in the USA. This beats Johnny Depp's "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End". That movie earned \$153 million in 2007. Maverick has also given Hollywood superstar Tom Cruise his first (6) \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 million opening weekend at the box office.

Maverick is the sequel (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the 1986 film "Top Gun". Cruise goes back to his role as US navy pilot Pete "Maverick" Mitchell. The movie's production company Paramount was very happy that "Maverick" had (8) \_\_\_\_\_ so well. Chris Aronson, president of domestic distribution, said: "These results are ridiculously, over-the-(9) \_\_\_\_\_ fantastic. I'm happy for everyone. I'm happy for the company, for Tom, and for the filmmakers." The movie has had (10) \_\_\_\_\_ reviews from critics. The "Independent" in the UK called it a "thrilling" blockbuster. Another UK newspaper, "The Telegraph," called it "absurdly exciting," and "unquestionably the best studio action film (11) \_\_\_\_\_ years". At first, Cruise did not want to (12) \_\_\_\_\_ the sequel. Now, he is happy he did.

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

- |     |            |             |             |                |
|-----|------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) latter | (b) latent  | (c) lately  | (d) latest     |
| 2.  | (a) shows  | (b) showing | (c) show    | (d) shown      |
| 3.  | (a) at     | (b) in      | (c) on      | (d) of         |
| 4.  | (a) other  | (b) others  | (c) another | (d) the others |
| 5.  | (a) at     | (b) on      | (c) in      | (d) of         |
| 6.  | (a) ever   | (b) every   | (c) event   | (d) never      |
| 7.  | (a) at     | (b) to      | (c) in      | (d) on         |
| 8.  | (a) done   | (b) does    | (c) did     | (d) doing      |
| 9.  | (a) higher | (b) top     | (c) end     | (d) bottom     |
| 10. | (a) race   | (b) rate    | (c) rave    | (d) rage       |
| 11. | (a) on     | (b) at      | (c) in      | (d) as         |
| 12. | (a) act    | (b) movie   | (c) filming | (d) make       |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. Tom Cruise's latest cselkbtruob film
2. broken box fcefio records
3. The movie ezamgain "Variety"
4. the widest eselrae of all time
5. It areend \$156 million
6. eatirsP of the Caribbean

## Paragraph 2

7. Maverick is the ueesql to the 1986 film "Top Gun"
8. back to his role as US navy oitpl
9. The movie's rdontiuopc company
10. president of oiemtdsc distribution
11. over-the-top cnftastai
12. rave reviews from circsit

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) top fantastic. I'm happy for everyone. I'm happy for the company, for Tom, and for the
- ( ) time. The movie also broke another record. It is the best Memorial Day opening film
- ( ) movie earned \$153 million in 2007. Maverick has also given Hollywood superstar Tom Cruise
- ( ) filmmakers." The movie has had rave reviews from critics. The "Independent" in the UK called
- ( ) in the biggest ever number of North American movie theatres. The movie magazine "Variety" reported that
- ( ) his first ever \$100 million opening weekend at the box office.
- ( ) 4,732 cinemas in the USA and Canada showed "Maverick". This makes it the widest release of all
- ( ) it a "thrilling" blockbuster. Another UK newspaper, "The Telegraph," called it "absurdly exciting," and "unquestionably the best studio
- ( ) well. Chris Aronson, president of domestic distribution, said: "These results are ridiculously, over-the-
- ( ) Maverick is the sequel to the 1986 film "Top Gun". Cruise goes back to his role as US navy
- ( ) in history. It earned \$156 million in the USA. This beats Johnny Depp's "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End". That
- ( **1** ) Tom Cruise's latest blockbuster film has broken box office records across America. The movie "Top Gun: Maverick" was shown
- ( ) pilot Pete "Maverick" Mitchell. The movie's production company Paramount was very happy that "Maverick" had done so
- ( ) action film in years". At first, Cruise did not want to make the sequel. Now, he is happy he did.

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

1. office records . blockbuster has His latest box broken
2. ever in Shown number biggest theatres . the of
3. all It is of the widest release time .
4. another record . The box office broke also movie
5. His first opening \$100 million ever weekend .
6. company happy . movie's production Paramount The was very
7. including for everyone, happy the I'm filmmakers .
8. reviews has had critics . rave movie The from
9. film best the Unquestionably action in studio years .
10. did want not sequel . to make the Cruise

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

Tom Cruise's *latest / earliest* blockbuster film has broken box office records across America. The movie "Top Gun: Maverick" was *showing / shown* in the biggest *ever / even* number of North American movie theatres. The movie magazine "Variety" *reporter / reported* that 4,732 cinemas in the USA and Canada showed "Maverick". This makes *it / them* the widest release of all time. The movie also *damaged / broke* another record. It is the best Memorial Day opening film *on / in* history. It earned \$156 million in the USA. This *beats / wins* Johnny Depp's "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End". That movie *earned / earnings* \$153 million in 2007. Maverick has also given Hollywood superstar Tom Cruise his first ever \$100 million opening weekend *at / in* the box office.

Maverick is the *sequence / sequel* to the 1986 film "Top Gun". Cruise goes back to his *role / roll* as US navy pilot Pete "Maverick" Mitchell. The movie's production company Paramount was very *happy / happily* that "Maverick" had done so well. Chris Aronson, president of *drastic / domestic* distribution, said: "These *result / results* are ridiculously, over-the-top fantastic. I'm happy for everyone. I'm happy *for / from* the company, for Tom, and for the filmmakers." The movie has had *rave / grave* reviews from critics. The "Independent" in the UK called it a "thrilling" blockbuster. *Other / Another* UK newspaper, "The Telegraph," called it "*absurd / absurdly* exciting," and "unquestionably the best studio action film in years". At first, Cruise did not want to make the sequel. Now, he is *happy / happily* he did.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

T\_m Cr\_\_s\_'s l\_t\_st bl\_ckb\_st\_r f\_lm h\_s br\_k\_n b\_x  
\_ff\_c\_ r\_c\_rds \_cr\_ss \_m\_r\_c\_. Th\_ m\_v\_\_ "T\_p G\_n:  
M\_v\_r\_ck" w\_s sh\_wn \_n th\_ b\_gg\_st \_v\_r n\_mb\_r \_f  
N\_rth \_m\_r\_c\_n m\_v\_\_ th\_\_tr\_s. Th\_ m\_v\_\_ m\_g\_z\_n\_  
"V\_r\_\_ty" r\_p\_r\_t\_d th\_t 4,732 c\_n\_m\_s \_n th\_ \_S\_ \_nd  
C\_n\_d\_ sh\_w\_d "M\_v\_r\_ck". Th\_s m\_k\_s \_t th\_ w\_d\_st  
r\_l\_\_s\_ \_f \_ll t\_m\_. Th\_ m\_v\_\_ \_ls\_ br\_k\_ \_n\_th\_r  
r\_c\_rd. \_t \_s th\_ b\_st M\_m\_r\_\_l D\_y \_p\_n\_ng f\_lm \_n  
h\_st\_ry. \_t \_\_rn\_d \$156 m\_ll\_\_n \_n th\_ \_S\_. Th\_s  
b\_\_ts J\_hnny D\_pp's "P\_r\_t\_s \_f th\_ C\_r\_bb\_\_n: \_t  
W\_rld's \_nd". Th\_t m\_v\_\_ \_\_rn\_d \$153 m\_ll\_\_n \_n  
2007. M\_v\_r\_ck h\_s \_ls\_ g\_v\_n H\_llyw\_\_d s\_p\_rst\_r  
T\_m Cr\_\_s\_ h\_s f\_rst \_v\_r \$100 m\_ll\_\_n \_p\_n\_ng  
w\_\_k\_nd \_t th\_ b\_x \_ff\_c\_.

M\_v\_r\_ck \_s th\_ s\_q\_\_l t\_ th\_ 1986 f\_lm "T\_p G\_n".  
Cr\_\_s\_ g\_\_s b\_ck t\_ h\_s r\_l\_ \_s \_S n\_vy p\_l\_t P\_t\_  
"M\_v\_r\_ck" M\_tch\_ll. Th\_ m\_v\_\_'s pr\_d\_ct\_\_n c\_mp\_ny  
P\_r\_m\_\_nt w\_s v\_ry h\_ppy th\_t "M\_v\_r\_ck" h\_d d\_n\_  
s\_ w\_ll. Chr\_s \_r\_n\_s\_n, pr\_s\_d\_nt \_f d\_m\_st\_c  
d\_str\_b\_t\_\_n, s\_\_d: "Th\_s\_ r\_s\_lts \_r\_ r\_d\_c\_l\_\_sly,  
\_v\_r-th\_-t\_p f\_nt\_st\_c. \_'m h\_ppy f\_r \_v\_ry\_n\_. \_'m  
h\_ppy f\_r th\_ c\_mp\_ny, f\_r T\_m, \_nd f\_r th\_  
f\_lmm\_k\_rs." Th\_ m\_v\_\_ h\_s h\_d r\_v\_ r\_v\_\_ws fr\_m  
cr\_t\_cs. Th\_ "\_nd\_p\_nd\_nt" \_n th\_ \_K c\_ll\_d \_t \_  
"thr\_ll\_ng" bl\_ckb\_st\_r. \_n\_th\_r \_K n\_wsp\_p\_r, "Th\_  
T\_l\_gr\_ph," c\_ll\_d \_t "\_bs\_rdly \_xc\_t\_ng," \_nd  
"\_nq\_\_st\_\_n\_bly th\_ b\_st st\_d\_\_ \_ct\_\_n f\_lm \_n y\_\_rs".  
\_t f\_rst, Cr\_\_s\_ d\_d n\_t w\_nt t\_ m\_k\_ th\_ s\_q\_\_l.  
N\_w, h\_ \_s h\_ppy h\_ d\_d.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

tom cruises latest blockbuster film has broken box office records across america the movie top gun maverick was shown in the biggest ever number of north american movie theatres the movie magazine variety reported that 4732 cinemas in the usa and canada showed maverick this makes it the widest release of all time the movie also broke another record it is the best memorial day opening film in history it earned 156 million in the usa this beats johnny depps pirates of the caribbean at worlds end that movie earned 153 million in 2007 maverick has also given hollywood superstar tom cruise his first ever 100 million opening weekend at the box office

maverick is the sequel to the 1986 film top gun cruise goes back to his role as us navy pilot pete maverick mitchell the movies production company paramount was very happy that maverick had done so well chris aronson president of domestic distribution said these results are ridiculously overthetop fantastic im happy for everyone im happy for the company for tom and for the filmmakers the movie has had rave reviews from critics the independent in the uk called it a thrilling blockbuster another uk newspaper the telegraph called it absurdly exciting and unquestionably the best studio action film in years at first cruise did not want to make the sequel now he is happy he did

## PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220602-top-gun-maverick.html>

TomCruise'slatestblockbusterfilmhasbrokenboxofficerecordsacross America.Themovie"TopGun:Maverick"wasshowninthebiggestever numberofNorthAmericanmovietheatres.Themoviemagazine"Variety"reportedthat4,732cinemasintheUSAandCanadashowed"Maverick".Thismakesitthewidestreleaseofalltime.Themoviealsobrokeanother record.ItisthebestMemorialDayopeningfilminhistory.Itearned\$156millionintheUSA.ThisbeatsJohnnyDepp's"PiratesoftheCaribbean:AtWorld'sEnd".Thatmovieearned\$153millionin2007.Maverickhasalso givenHollywoodsuperstarTomCruisehisfirstever\$100millionopening weekendattheboxoffice.Maverickisthesequeltothe1986film"TopGun".CruisegoesbacktohisroleasUSnavypilotPete"Maverick"Mitchell.Themovie'sproductioncompanyParamountwasveryhappythat"Maverick"haddonesowell.ChrisAronson,presidentofdomesticdistribution,said:"Theseresultsareridiculously,over-the-topfantastic.I'mhappyforeveryone.I'mhappyforthecompany,forTom,andforthefilmmakers." Themoviehashad rave reviews from critics.The"Independent"inthelUK calledit"thrilling"blockbuster.AnotherUKnewspaper,"TheTelegraph,"calledit"absurdlyexciting,"and"unquestionablythebeststudioactionfilmyears".Atfirst,Cruisedidnotwanttomakethesequel.Now,heishappyhedid.







# 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 this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MOVIES:** Make a poster about movies. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. MOVIE THEATRES:** Write a magazine article about making movies only available in movie theatres and not on the Internet. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on movies. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on movies. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. c    2. e    3. d    4. a    5. f    6. g    7. b  
8. k    9. h    10. i    11. n    12. m    13. j    14. l

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F    2 T    3 F    4 T    5 F    6 T    7 F    8 F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. h	2. d	3. f	4. b	5. c
6. j	7. e	8. a	9. g	10. i

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Box office records
- 4,732
- \$156 million
- 2007
- A \$100 million opening weekend
- US navy pilot
- Happy
- A thrilling blockbuster
- The Telegraph newspaper
- He didn't want to make it

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- His latest blockbuster has broken box office records.
- Shown in the biggest ever number of theatres.
- It is the widest release of all time.
- The movie also broke another box office record.
- His first ever \$100 million opening weekend.
- The movie's production company Paramount was very happy.
- I'm happy for everyone, including the filmmakers.
- The movie has had rave reviews from critics.
- Unquestionably the best studio action film in years.
- Cruise did not want to make the sequel.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c    2. a    3. b    4. d    5. c    6. b    7. d    8. b    9. b    10. a

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)