

Task 1 – Long reading: Cinemas

At a glance

Level: ISE I

Focus: Task 1 – Long reading

Aims: Students practise reading a text and completing sentences about the text

Objectives: Students can understand specific factual information at word and phrasal level

Skill: Understanding specific information

Topic: Entertainment

Language functions: Expressing preferences, expressing and requesting opinions and impressions and expressing intention and purpose

Lexis: Vocabulary used to describe places and vocabulary related to entertainment.

Materials needed: Whiteboard, paper and pens, dictionaries and one student worksheet per student

Timing: 45 minutes

Procedure

Preparation

1. If possible, write the questions from step 2 on the board before the lesson.
2. Photocopy one student worksheet per student.

In class

1. Tell the students that they are going to practise reading a text and completing sentences, like they will need to do in Task 1 – Long reading in the ISE I Reading and Writing exam. Tell them the text is about 'unusual cinemas around the world'.
2. To introduce the topic of cinemas, dictate the following questions or write them on the board before the class:
 - Do you often go to the cinema?

- What kind of films do you enjoy most?
- Do you prefer watching films at home or in the cinema?
- Describe the most unusual cinema you have been to.

Put students into groups of 3 and ask them to discuss these questions for 5 minutes.

3. Give out the student worksheet. Tell the students that before they read the text, you are going to check their understanding of some collocations from the text. Explain that a collocation is two words that are commonly used together. For example, we can collocate *nice*, *good* and *beautiful* with *weather*, but not *pretty*. Ask them to complete Exercise 1 in pairs. Allow them to use dictionaries if necessary.
4. After 7 minutes, go over the answers as a class. Check students' understanding of each collocation. Ask students which verb we use with 'boats' (row). Ask students if they know another word for a 'hot tub' (Jacuzzi).
5. Tell the students they have three minutes to read the text quickly and answer the question in Exercise 2.
6. Allow students to discuss the answer in small groups, and then tell them the correct answer. If necessary, explain that Roman arenas were not covered.
7. Check that students understand the instructions to Exercise 3. Explain that there is always a sentence completion task in Task 1 – Long reading in the ISE Reading and Writing exam.
8. Write this example on the board:

People first started going _____ in the 1890s.

Ask students to discuss in pairs which word or words they think are missing. Explain that the answer could be one, two or three words.

9. Elicit the answer from the students (*to the cinema*). Ask them for the corresponding sentence in the text (*Going to the cinema has been a popular form of entertainment since the 1890s*). Ask students whether the answer 'to watch films' would be acceptable. Explain that although it makes sense and is grammatically correct, it would not be acceptable, as the words have to be taken directly from the text without any changes.
10. Ask students to complete Exercise 3 individually. Allow ten minutes.

11. Allow students to compare their answers in pairs, and then go over the correct answers with the whole class. For each question, elicit the corresponding sentence in the text.

12. Now write the following question on the board:

- Which of the five cinemas would you most like to visit, and why?

Put students into groups of three and ask them to discuss for five minutes.

Extension activity

Students who finish more quickly can be asked to write a paragraph describing the most unusual cinema they have been to.

Further support activity

Weaker students can be asked to highlight the parts of the text which correspond to the sentences in Exercise 3.

After class

Students invent an unusual cinema and write a paragraph describing it.

Student worksheet

**Task 1 – Long reading:
Cinemas**

- 1) Match a word in the first column with a word in the second column to create a common collocation. Use a dictionary if necessary.

1. gladiator	a. boat
2. rubber	b. top
3. hot	c. quality
4. roof	d. battle
5. theme	e. dining
6. private	f. tub
7. sound	g. park

- 2) Read the text quickly and answer the following question:
How many of the cinemas described in the text are outdoors?

- 3) Complete the sentences with a word, phrase or number from the text (maximum 3 words). Write the word, phrase or number in the space provided.

1. Pula Arena in Croatia shows films inside an arena from _____ times.

2. At Cinema "Lake" in Kosovo, the audience sit in either chairs or _____.

3. At the Hot Tub cinema in London, groups of fewer than six may have to _____ with strangers.

4. At the Sci-Fi Dine-In Theater Restaurant in the USA, the audience watch films at the same time as _____.

5. The Orange Cinema in China offers high quality vision and sound thanks to the use of _____.

Reading text

**Task 1 – Long reading:
Cinemas**

Unusual cinemas around the world

Going to the cinema has been a popular form of entertainment since the 1890s. Traditionally, cinemas seat people in rows of chairs inside a dark room. Nowadays however, there are numerous cinemas around the world that provide a much more interesting experience.

One example is the Pula Arena in Croatia. It is one of the six largest surviving Roman arenas in the world. It once occupied the locals with violent gladiator battles, but now entertains them with films. Every year, a European film competition called the Pula Film Festival takes place here.

Cinema "Lake" is an outdoor cinema in Kosovo. It is located at a lake on a hill in a city park. As well as lakeside chairs, there are rubber boats, so that the audience can watch the films while rowing around the lake. Part of the annual International Documentary and Short Film Festival happens here.

The Hot Tub cinema is on a rooftop in London, England. The audience sit in Jacuzzis while watching classic films. It is possible to book a whole tub for a group of six, or to buy individual tickets to share a tub with others. Every tub has waiter service to supply food and drinks. Afterwards, there is a party and music.

The Sci-Fi Dine-In Theater Restaurant is at Hollywood Studios, one of the four theme parks at Walt Disney World in Orlando in the USA. The cinema looks like a 1950s drive-in theatre. Visitors watch film clips from 1950s and 1960s films while eating typical American food at tables disguised as cars.

The Orange Cinema in China is an exclusive club for members only. It offers a luxurious setting in which guests can enjoy fine drinks, private dining, and comfortable blankets and pillows. The use of advanced projectors results in very high visual and sound quality.

These are just a few examples of the fascinating variety of cinemas around the world. It seems that going out to watch a film is as popular now as ever, but the traditional cinema may no longer be enough to keep people entertained. For many, the cinema itself may be more important than the film that is showing.

Answers

1.

1. gladiator	d. battle
2. rubber	a. boat
3. hot	f. tub
4. roof	b. top
5. theme	g. park
6. private	e. dining
7. sound	c. quality

2.

3 of the cinemas are outdoors: Pula Arena, Cinema "Lake" and Hot Tub cinema.

3.

1. Pula Arena in Croatia shows films inside an arena from Roman times.

2. At Cinema "Lake" in Kosovo, the audience sit in either chairs or (rubber) boats.

3. At the Hot Tub cinema in London, groups of fewer than six may have to share a tub with strangers.

4. At the Sci-Fi Dine-In Theater Restaurant in the USA, the audience watch films at the same time as eating (American food).

5. The Orange Cinema in China offers high quality vision and sound thanks to the use of advanced projectors.

Original sources:

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