

UOW College Hong Kong / Community College of City University
Student English Enhancement Unit (SEE U)
Daily English Practice

Week 6

#77 Me Before You

Skills/ Objectives: To train students' reading, writing, speaking and listening skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

1. When people say “after you,” what do they mean?
2. You might have seen the movie... but have you read the original novel *Me Before You* (2012)?
3. Is there any chance you might fall in love with a stranger who happens to be an invalid? What if it was a handsome, young ex-investment banker whose parents owned a castle in Britain?

Vocabulary

1. Stint (noun): a limited period of time doing a particular job
2. Braille (noun): a system of printing for blind people
3. Bursary (noun): an amount of money given to a person to pay for them to study
4. Journalism (noun): the work of collecting, writing, and publishing news stories in the mass media
5. Critically acclaimed (adverb + past participle): praised publicly by experts

Answer(s) to the relevant questions above will be provided in the next exercise.

Answers to relevant questions in the preceding set of exercises:

Question 1: In Latin, “homo” means “man”; “deus” means “god.”

Question 2: Words like “homogeneous” and “homosexual.”

Question 3: In Latin, “deus ex machina” means “god from the machine,” which is taken to mean a highly unlikely, unconvincing ending to a story or an event.

Question 4: Quite a few, actually, like: “a.m.” “p.m.” “e.g.” “etc.” “vice versa”

PART 2: Article for Reading

Meet Jojo Moyes, author of *Me Before You*:

About Jojo (Click the link to read the article)

<https://www.jojomoyes.com/about-jojo/>

So you see Jojo Moyes has spent a year working at the *South China Morning Post* in Hong Kong; hence, her Hong Kong connection.

PART 3: Speaking Skills

The word “Braille” featured in Part 1 is the name of the inventor of the Braille writing and reading method for the visually impaired, Louis Braille, born in France in 1809. See if you can say “Braille” clearly:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ik6oRyqwbdc>

You will surely find that the word “Braille” sounds quite different in French (and, of course, so does “Louis”!).

PART 4: Listening Skills

1. *Me Before You*: Official Trailer

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eh993__rOxA (2:18 minutes)

2. Top 10 Best Romance Movies of All Time

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oK3rNDC1018> (4:30 minutes)

Top 10 well chosen—“There wasn’t a dry eye in the house when this movie graced the silver screen....”

Further Discussion

Write a short response to the following question:

Recommend a love story as romantic as Me Before You.

Send your writing to: see.u@ccu.edu.hk.

Our SEE U teachers are always ready to give feedback.