

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

Week 7

#82 And the Oscar Goes to...

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

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

1. Do you think the Oscars can always honour the right movies?
2. Who decides which movie to win an Oscar?
3. Besides the Oscars, what other movie awards are being given these days?

Vocabulary

1. Ballot (noun): a piece of paper on which you write your vote
2. Glitzy (adjective): having a fashionable appearance intended
3. Showbiz (noun): show business
4. Elite (noun): the most powerful and influential group in a society:
5. Emeritus (adjective): no longer having a job position, but keeping its title

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 3: Celine Tam from Hong Kong, for example, singing "My Heart Will Go On."

PART 2: Article for Reading

There is no such thing universal suffrage in the US film making industry.

Who votes for the Academy Awards and how does it work? *(Click the link to read the article)*

<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/detail/movie/30364385>

PART 3: Speaking Skills

Are you aware of words like "showbiz" (highlighted in Part 1)? Words that are clipped off from full words, as "biz" which comes from "business"?

Now say these pairs as loud and clearly as you can:

Ad – advertisement

Bike – bicycle

Bro – brother

Co-ed – co-educational

Dorm – dormitory

Exam – examination

Flu – influenza

Lab – laboratory

Mic – microphone

Typo – typographical error

Vet – veterinarian

Zoo – zoological garden

PART 4: Listening Skills

1. 10 Most Iconic Moments in Oscar's History

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8f8cDgSFMJ4> (4:20 minutes)

This clip captures some of the memorable moments in the history of the Oscars. Note what happened in year 1973 when Best Actor was announced.

2. Marlon Brando's Oscar win for *The Godfather*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2QUacU0I4yU> (2:21 minutes)

Winner of Best Actor for 1973 has decided to turn the ceremony into a political event, protesting against the “treatment of American Indians today by the film industry, and on television, on movie re-runs....” Accepting the award for Marlon Brando in *The Godfather* is one Miss Sacheen Littlefeather.

PART 5: Writing Practice

Write a short response to the following question:

Is there anything wrong today with Hollywood’s portrayal of Asians?

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

Our SEE U teachers are always ready to give feedback.