Stage and screen

THE INTERVIEW

You are going to listen to an interview with Trevor White, a Canadian actor. Before you listen, read the glossary and look at how the words are pronounced to help you understand what he says.

Glossary

voice-over /'vois əuvə/ information or comments in a film or TV programme given by a person who you do not see on the screen

fringe theatre /frindz θiətə/ plays, often by new writers, that are unusual and question the way people think

props /props/ objects used by actors during the performance of a play

rehearsal /ri'ha:səl/ time that is spent practising a play or piece of music

Dictaphone /'dıktəfəun/ a small machine used to record people speaking

oftentimes /'pfəntamz/ (North American English) often

Royal Shakespeare Company

A British drama company which specializes in Shakespeare's plays

Coriolanus /cpriə'leinəs/ one of Shakespeare's lesser know plays set in Roman times

feature film /fixtsə film/ a fulllength film with a story, i.e. not a documentary

sword /sɔːd/ a weapon with a long metal blade

axe /æks/ a weapon with a wooden handle and a heavy metal blade, also a tool for chopping wood

parry /'pæri/ to defend yourself stopping sb hitting you, e.g. with your arm or with a weapon



4.25 Listen and complete the phrases. What do you think they mean?

COMMON PHRASES

- 1 There isn't much I don't do, I guess, ____ as acting goes.
- and you're expected to know all your lines. (pv, informal)
- You do it a few times and ______
- ____ when the 4 It's amazing the writing is good.
- 5 I gave the other guy three stitches on his fingers point when he parried in the wrong place.
- 6 You get to do it _____ and ____ again . (idiom)
- e Listen to the interview again with the tapescript on page 126. Does he make acting sound like an attractive job to do?

- b 4.23 Listen to part 1. Answer the questions with a partner.
 - 1 What kinds of acting does he do?
 - 2 How did he become an actor?
 - 3 What does he find most difficult about preparing for a part?
 - 4 How does he learn his lines?
 - 5 What kind of lines are difficult to memorize?
- **4.24** Listen to part 2. Answer the questions with a partner.

What does he say about...?

- 1 Coriolanus
- 2 a sword and axe fight
- 3 the difference between theatre acting and film acting
- 4 the good and bad side about TV and film work
- 5 being on a red carpet

IN THE STREET

4.26 You're going to listen to five people talking about acting. Write the number of the speaker next to what they appeared in. How many of them mention feeling nervous?











Cherry

a school play a musical a music video a play

Mike

- b Listen again. Who...?
 - 1 names the plays they have appeared in
 - 2 hopes to become a professional actor
 - 3 hasn't acted for a very long time
 - 4 also helps other actors with their appearance
 - 5 often appears on stage but not as an actor

4.27 Listen and complete the phrases. What do you think they mean?

COMMON PHRASES

- 1 I was in a music video once, but that's about as _____ as I've gone.
- of it, being able to be someone else in front of people. (informal)
- 3 And you can just _____ of get taken away into this other world. (informal)
- There are a _____ of plays I've been in.
- 5 It is nerve-wracking just as you're _____ to go on.
- d Listen to the interviews again with the tapescript on page 127. Then answer the same questions with a partner.









Make your home a safer place!

You probably think that your home is the one place where you are safe. That's what I thought until last week. Now I know our flat is full of accidents waiting to happen. / Next month we're looking after my niece and nephew while their parents go away for a short break. We asked them to come and make sure everything was OK. We got a few surprises. We started in the spare bedroom, where the children will sleep. Everybody knows you shouldn't put children's beds under a window in case a child tries to climb out. Everybody except us! Next was the bathroom. We keep our medicines on a shelf above the washbasin. A terrible idea, as my sister explained. Never leave medicines somewhere children can find them. They might think they are sweets. Finally, the kitchen. This is the most dangerous room in the house. Knives should be kept in drawers which children can't reach, and all cleaning liquids in high cupboards. So we have three weeks to make our house safe. It's not difficult...once you know how.

- a Look at the three pictures. What do you think the child's parents should / shouldn't have done? Read the article and check.
- b This article was originally written in six short paragraphs. Mark (/) where each new paragraph should begin.
- c You're going to write an article for a school magazine about how to be safe if you go walking in the country or the mountains. Look at the Useful language expressions and make sure you know how to use them.

Useful language

Giving advice

Don't forget to...Remember to...

Make sure you

You should...

Never...

Reasons

- ...in case
- ...so (that)
- ...because it might...

PLAN the content in pairs or small groups.

- 1 Think of a good title, and one or two introductory sentences.
- 2 Write down a few tips, e.g what to take with you (see picture below for ideas). Then divide the tips into two or three groups and put them into a logical order.

WRITE 120–180 words. Use a neutral or informal style.

CHECK your article for mistakes (grammar, punctuation, and spelling).

