

Revision 1

Listen!



You are Leonard. You are reading an article about Bollywood films in a magazine.

The Rise of Bollywood Films

Speaking of Bollywood, many people will instantly think about the fanciful romantic Indian musicals, in which actors and actresses often pop up out of nowhere and then start to sing and dance. 'Bollywood' combines 'Bombay', where the Indian film industry is based, with 'Hollywood', where the American film industry is based. In other words, 'Bollywood' is 'the Hollywood of India'.



The boom in the Indian film industry can be traced back to the 1930s in Bombay. Before India became independent from the British rule in 1947, many Bollywood films had themes like 'struggle for independence' or 'hard life in the stormy era', and many stories were about how people shifted their attention to positive things at that time. It was not until the late 1950s that there were more light-hearted and melodramatic plots. The most typical ones included young lovers overcoming parents' objections to the relationship, bittersweet love triangles, reunion of long-lost siblings separated by fate, etc.

Songs and dances are a crucial part of the formula of Bollywood films. Actors and actresses need songs and dances to move the story forward. Therefore, whether a Bollywood film can strike a chord with the audience really depends on whether the dances are expressive and whether the lyrics are meaningful. An average Bollywood film is about 3 hours long! One without music scenes is more likely to drive the audience to sleep!

Bollywood actresses, who look fabulous and capture many's hearts, are actually victims of gender inequality, a long-standing issue in India. Sparing no less effort than actors do, Bollywood actresses are paid only one-fifth of what the actors can get. On top of wage inequality, they are told that being sexy is their only strength, and that they could always be replaced as they only stand behind actors. They are seldom acknowledged for how well they act, sing or dance. Even Kareena Kapoor, one of the most famous Bollywood actresses, struggles to receive equal respect and get equal reward as most Bollywood actors.

(342 words)

Part A

Answer the following questions using the information from the article. Choose the **BEST** answer and blacken **ONE** circle only.

- The word 'instantly' in line 2 is best replaced by '_____'.
 A. fortunately B. immediately
 C. suddenly D. rarely
- When did Bollywood films begin to cover less serious topics?
 A. in the early 20th century
 B. before 1947
 C. in 1947
 D. after 1947
- Themes related to the struggles during the colonial era of India are _____.
 A. quite delightful
 B. rather serious
 C. too dramatic
 D. extremely boring
- Which of the following is **NOT TRUE** about Bollywood?
 A. Bollywood copied productions from Hollywood.
 B. Bollywood is the centre of the Indian film industry.
 C. Songs and dances are an essential component of Bollywood films.
 D. Bollywood actors make more money than Bollywood actresses.
- The article explores _____.
i) the history and development of Bollywood
ii) the elements of Bollywood films
iii) differences between Bollywood and Hollywood
iv) social issues that have strongly influenced the Indian film industry
 A. only i
 B. i and ii
 C. i, ii and iii
 D. ii, iii and iv

Part B

Answer the following questions using the information from the article. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

1. Find a phrasal verb which means 'to remember someone or something'.

2. Look at the following pronouns and answer what/who they refer to in the article.

Pronoun	Line	Reference
ones	line 17	(a)
One	line 24	(b)
they	line 30	(c)

3. What makes Bollywood films strike a chord with the audience? Explain your answer.

4. What shows that Bollywood actresses are treated unfairly? Answer in your own words.

5. Decide whether each of the following statements is **True**, **False**, or the information is **Not Given** in the article. Blacken one circle only for each statement.

Statement	T	F	NG
(a) Bollywood originates from Hollywood.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(b) Bollywood began in Bombay.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(c) Appearance matters a lot in Bollywood.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(d) Bollywood films usually come with dances and songs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(e) The wealthiest Bollywood film star is Kareena Kapoor.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Part C Vocabulary

Complete the presentation script by filling in the blanks with the words provided. One of the words is not used.

concert hall
makeover shows
shopping malls

saxophone
talk show
clubhouse

ukulele
xylophone
wakeboarding

Dear Miss Leung and fellow classmates,

Good afternoon! Today I am going to talk about how I spend my leisure time. In other words, I will share some activities that I do to relax with all of you.

As many of you know, I am sporty. I always play badminton and squash at the ❶ _____, which takes just a 5-min walk from my home. I quite like the environment there as the facilities are new and only residents in the community are welcome, so it would not be too crowded. I am now learning ❷ _____ so I am meeting my coach at weekends at Sai Kung. This is a new experience to me and I find it really challenging to maintain my balance while on the board.

I am a music lover, and I have been playing two musical instruments since I was 10 years old. The first one is the ❸ _____, which is played by hitting the wooden bars with two sticks. Last Christmas, I even performed in one of the ❹ _____! The other one is like a small guitar—the ❺ _____. From time to time, my parents would take me to the ❻ _____ to attend orchestral performances. I wonder if I will ever get the chance to perform on stage one day!

Last but not least, I like watching TV when I am at home. ❼ _____ are my favourite as I find them informative. I like to learn from people who are willing to share their personal experiences. I also like ❽ _____ as I have developed a sense of fashion from trying out the stylists' recommendations.

This is all I would like to share today. We all have our own ways to relax. I hope all of you have already found one that suits you.