Theatre and cinema

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

UPPER-INTERMEDIATE | B2

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Match each screen or stage term with its meaning.

1 ensemble cast	____	a timing and speed with which a story develops
2 stage direction	____	b visual arrangement within a film frame or stage space
3 mise-en-scene	____	c use of camera, lighting and image composition
4 cinematography	____	d group of actors with similarly important roles
5 narrative pacing	____	e written instruction about action or movement
6 character arc	____	f public cinema launch intended to sell tickets
7 sound design	____	g high praise from professional reviewers
8 box-office release	____	h planned creation and use of sound
9 critical acclaim	____	i change a character undergoes through a story
10 immersive performance	____	j production that places the audience inside the action

2 Complete the analytical collocations.

acclaim | arc | cast | cinematography | design | pacing | release | scene

1 direct an ensemble _____

2 follow a complex character _____

3 control narrative _____

4 analyse the mise-en-_____

5 use expressive _____

6 create layered sound _____

7 plan a wide box-office _____

8 receive international critical _____

3 Choose the most precise term for the context.

1 A group with no single dominant star: *ensemble cast / supporting cast*.

2 Instruction such as 'crosses to the window': *stage direction / dialogue*.

3 Arrangement of setting, costume, lighting and performers: *mise-en-scene / cinematography*.

4 Camera movement, framing and lighting: *cinematography / sound design*.

5 The speed and rhythm of story development: *narrative pacing / character arc*.

6 A figure's emotional development: *character arc / stage direction*.

7 A cinema launch designed for ticket sales: *box-office release / festival preview*.

8 A show surrounding spectators with the action: *immersive performance / conventional staging*.

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4 Complete the production review with terms from the box.

box-office release | character arc | cinematography | critical acclaim | ensemble cast | immersive performance | mise-en-scene | narrative pacing | sound design | stage direction

The adaptation uses an **1** _____, giving four performers equal weight. One repeated **2** _____ moves them silently across the stage. The production becomes an **3** _____ when spectators enter the fictional apartment. Its **4** _____ carefully combines props, costume and light. In the film version, restrained **5** _____ and detailed **6** _____ create tension. Uneven **7** _____ slows the middle, but the central **8** _____ remains convincing. After **9** _____ at festivals, the film is preparing for a wide **10** _____.

5 Read the text and answer the questions briefly.

Adapting across media

A stage play and a film cannot communicate in exactly the same way. Theatre shares physical space with the audience and can use live presence, while cinema controls viewpoint through framing and editing. A film adaptation may replace a spoken monologue with images, movement or sound. Fidelity to every line is therefore not the only measure of success. A strong adaptation identifies the function of a scene and finds an effective equivalent in the new medium.

1 What physical relation distinguishes theatre? _____

2 How does cinema control viewpoint? _____

3 What may replace a spoken monologue in film? _____

4 Why is line-by-line fidelity not the only test? _____

5 What should an adapter identify in a scene? _____

6 What should then be found in the new medium? _____

6 Rewrite using the expression in capitals.

1 The actors all had equally important roles. **ENSEMBLE** _____

2 Camera and lighting choices created a cold visual style. **CINEMATOGRAPHY** ___

3 The story moved too slowly in the middle. **PACING** _____

4 Professional reviewers praised the production highly. **ACCLAIM** _____

OVER TO YOU

Write a **120-150 word** analysis of a production or adaptation. Discuss performance, visual form, sound, pacing, character and reception.

[ ] Use at least ten target expressions. [ ] Analyse how form creates meaning. [ ] Support evaluation with examples.

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ANSWER KEY

1 Screen and stage terms

1 **d** 2 **e** 3 **b** 4 **c** 5 **a** 6 **i** 7 **h** 8 **f** 9 **g** 10 **j**

2 Analytical collocations

1 **cast** 2 **arc** 3 **pacing** 4 **scene** 5 **cinematography** 6 **design** 7 **release** 8 **acclaim**

3 Precise terms

1 **ensemble cast** 2 **stage direction** 3 **mise-en-scene** 4 **cinematography**
5 **narrative pacing** 6 **character arc** 7 **box-office release** 8 **immersive performance**

4 Production review

1 **ensemble cast** 2 **stage direction** 3 **immersive performance** 4 **mise-en-scene** 5 **cinematography**
6 **sound design** 7 **narrative pacing** 8 **character arc** 9 **critical acclaim** 10 **box-office release**

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 Theatre shares physical space with the audience. 2 Through framing and editing. 3 Images, movement or sound.
4 The media communicate differently. 5 The scene's function. 6 An effective equivalent.

6 Rewriting - possible answers

1 The production had an **ensemble cast**. 2 The **cinematography** created a cold visual style. 3 The narrative **pacing** was too slow in the middle. 4 The production received critical **acclaim**.

Over to you: Answers will vary. Check analytical precision, formal evidence and a well-supported evaluation.