

Activity Type

Grammar, Writing and Speaking Activity: information gap, writing, asking and answering question from prompts (group and pair work)

Focus

Past simple *Wh* questions

Aim

To write and then ask past simple *Wh* questions in order to complete a text.

Preparation

Make one copy of the two worksheets for each pair of students.

Level

Upper-intermediate (B2)

Time

30 minutes

Introduction

In this past simple information gap activity, students write and ask past simple *Wh* questions in order to complete a text about Leonardo DiCaprio's life.

Procedure

Divide the students into two groups (A and B).

Give each student a corresponding worksheet.

In their groups, students read a text about Leonardo DiCaprio's life and write the ten past simple *Wh* questions they need to find out the missing information.

When the students have finished, check the questions with each group.

Student A - Answer key

1. When was Leonardo DiCaprio born?
2. What was his pregnant mother looking at when he first kicked?
3. When did he make his film debut?
4. When did Leonardo's big break come?
5. What did it make him?
6. What did Titanic win?
7. What was missing from Leonardo's life?
8. What was he never able to get his hands on?
9. What film did Leonardo win an Academy Award for?
10. Who did he interview in 2000?

Student B - Answer key

1. Where was Leonardo DiCaprio born?
2. What did Leonardo start his career with?
3. What film did DiCaprio make his debut in?
4. What did he star in?
5. What did Titanic become?
6. What were most of Leonardo DiCaprio's film roles?
7. What did Leo gain?
8. What did Leonardo finally win the Academy Award for?
9. What did he host in 2000?
10. What was he appointed as in 2014?

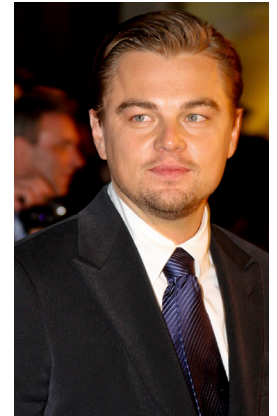
Next, students pair up with someone from the other group.

Students then take turns asking and answering the questions in numerical order to find out the information missing in the text, writing their partner's answers in the spaces.

When the students have finished, they compare their completed texts, which should be identical.

Student A

Leonardo DiCaprio was born on (1) in Los Angeles, California. DiCaprio was named Leonardo because his pregnant mother was looking at a (2) when he first kicked. Leonardo started his career with appearances in commercials. In (3), DiCaprio made his film debut in the low-budget horror film Critters 3. Leonardo's big break came in (4) He starred in James Cameron's epic drama Titanic, and it made him (5) Titanic became a commercial smash hit and won (6) From then on, most of Leonardo DiCaprio's film roles were successful at the box office. Some of those movies include Shutter Island, Inception, The Great Gatsby and The Wolf of Wall Street. However, there was one thing Leonardo's life was missing, and that was (7) Having been a part of some of the best movies of all time, Leo gained numerous Oscar nominations but he was never able to get his hands on (8) Leonardo DiCaprio finally won the Academy Award for Best Actor for the film (9) Off-screen, Leonardo is passionate about saving the environment. In 2000, he hosted an Earth Day celebration and interviewed (10) for a television segment about global warming. In 2014, he was appointed as a United Nations representative on climate change.



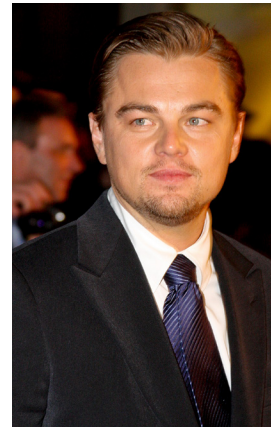
A. Read the text and write the past simple *Wh* questions you need to find out the missing information.

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B. Now, take turns asking the questions to your partner and complete the text with their answers.

Student B

Leonardo DiCaprio was born on November 11, 1974 in (1)
 DiCaprio was named Leonardo because his pregnant mother was looking at a Leonardo da Vinci painting when he first kicked. Leonardo started his career with
 (2) In 1991, DiCaprio made his film debut in
 (3) Leonardo's big break came in 1997. He starred in
 (4), and it made him a huge star. Titanic became
 (5) and won 11 Academy Award nominations. From then on,
 most of Leonardo DiCaprio's film roles were (6) Some of those
 movies include Shutter Island, Inception, The Great Gatsby and The Wolf of Wall Street.
 However, there was one thing Leonardo's life was missing, and that was
 an Academy Award. Having been a part of some of the best movies of all
 time, Leo gained (7) but he was never able
 to get his hands on an Oscar. Leonardo DiCaprio finally won the Academy
 Award for (8) for the film the Revenant. Off-
 screen, Leonardo is passionate about saving the environment. In 2000,
 he hosted (9) and interviewed former U.S.
 President Bill Clinton for a television segment about global warming. In
 2014, he was appointed as a (10)



A. Read the text and write the past simple *Wh* questions you need to find out the missing information.

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B. Now, take turns asking the questions to your partner and complete the text with their answers.