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Beyonce wants Wonder Woman role

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Contents

The Article	2
Warm-ups	3
Before Reading / Listening	4
While Reading / Listening	5
Listening Gap Fill	6
After Reading / Listening	7
Student Survey	8
Discussion	9
Language Work	10
Writing	11
Homework	12
Answers	13

THE ARTICLE

Singing superstar Beyonce has revealed she wants to play the role of Wonder Woman in a future superhero movie. Wonder Woman is one of the only superhero characters never made into a movie. Beyonce told the Los Angeles Times blog: "I want to do a superhero movie and what would be better than Wonder Woman?" She added: "It would be great. And it would be a very bold choice. A black Wonder Woman would be a powerful thing. It's time for that, right?" It would indeed be a bold move by the movie makers to have a black Wonder Woman as all previous Hollywood superheroes have been white. It would follow on the heels of Barack Obama's recent election success. Obama is, of course, America's first black president.

Taking on the role of Wonder Woman would be Beyonce's latest movie role. The former Destiny's Child singer has already appeared in Austin Powers and Pink Panther movies. In 2006, she was nominated for a Golden Globe for her role in Dreamgirls. She will soon be in theatres playing the singer Etta James in the movie Cadillac Records. She also has a major role in the new thriller Obsessed. Beyonce said: "After doing these roles, that were so emotional, I was thinking to myself, 'OK, I need to be a superhero.'" Beyonce decided she wanted to play Wonder Woman after she saw the costume Lynda Carter wore in the 1970s television series based on the superhero. Beyonce said it would be "handy" to be able "to make everybody tell the truth," like Wonder Woman.

WARM-UPS

1. HEROES: Walk around the class and talk to other students about heroes. Change partners often. After you finish, sit with your partner(s) and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

superstars / superheroes / blogs / bold choices / powerful things / black heroes / movie roles / singers / thrillers / television series / handy things / telling the truth

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. SUPERHEROES: Who would be the best people to take on these superhero roles? Complete the table below. Share what you wrote with your partner(s).

Superhero	Who	Why I think this
Wonder Woman		
Superman		
Super-Teacher		
Super-Leader		
The Fantastic Techie		
Captain Cool		

4. MY HERO: Students A **strongly** believe we don't need heroes; Students B **strongly** believe heroes in our life are a positive force for good. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. NEW CHARACTERS: With your partner(s), discuss what kind of superhero characters these people might have. Share your ideas with other students.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Barack Obama• Serena Williams• Tiger Woods• UN General Secretary Ban Ki-moon	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Queen Elizabeth II• Michael Jackson• Kate Moss• Angela Merkel
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6. SUPERSTAR: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'superstar'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

1. TRUE / FALSE: Look at the article's headline and guess whether these sentences are true (T) or false (F):

- a. Beyonce wants to act in a movie as the superhero Wonder Woman. T / F
- b. There have been two Wonder Woman movies in the past 30 years. T / F
- c. Beyonce said the actor who plays Wonder Woman must be powerful. T / F
- d. There has been a good mix of black and white Hollywood superheroes. T / F
- e. Beyonce has already appeared in several big movies. T / F
- f. In 2006, Beyonce won an Oscar for her role in the movie Dreamgirls. T / F
- g. Beyonce wanted to be Wonder Woman after she saw a TV costume. T / F
- h. Beyonce thinks it would be useful to make everyone tell the truth. T / F

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article:

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| 1. revealed | a. outfit |
| 2. movie | b. earlier |
| 3. bold | c. part |
| 4. previous | d. made it known |
| 5. success | e. recommended |
| 6. role | f. big |
| 7. nominated | g. field |
| 8. major | h. useful |
| 9. costume | i. confident |
| 10. handy | j. win |

3. PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article (sometimes more than one combination is possible):

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. she wants to play the role | a. choice |
| 2. one of the only superhero characters never | b. Lynda Carter wore |
| 3. it would be a very bold | c. made into a movie |
| 4. all previous Hollywood superheroes | d. heels of... |
| 5. follow on the | e. movie role |
| 6. Wonder Woman would be Beyonce's latest | f. a Golden Globe |
| 7. she was nominated for | g. of Wonder Woman |
| 8. She also has a major role in | h. "handy" |
| 9. she saw the costume | i. have been white |
| 10. Beyonce said it would be | j. the new thriller |

WHILE READING / LISTENING

GAP FILL: Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Singing superstar Beyonce has revealed she wants to _____ the role of Wonder Woman in a future superhero movie. Wonder Woman is one of the only superhero characters _____ made into a movie. Beyonce told the Los Angeles Times blog: "I want to do a superhero movie and what would be better than Wonder Woman?" She added: "It would be great. And it would be a very _____ choice. A black Wonder Woman would be a powerful _____. It's time for that, right?" It would _____ be a bold move by the movie makers to have a black Wonder Woman as all _____ Hollywood superheroes have been white. It would _____ on the heels of Barack Obama's recent election _____. Obama is, of course, America's first black president.

previous

bold

play

indeed

follow

never

success

thing

Taking on the _____ of Wonder Woman would be Beyonce's latest movie role. The _____ Destiny's Child singer has already _____ in Austin Powers and Pink Panther movies. In 2006, she was nominated for a Golden Globe for her role in Dreamgirls. She will soon be in theatres _____ the singer Etta James in the movie Cadillac Records. She also has a major role in the new _____ Obsessed. Beyonce said: "After doing these roles, that were so _____, I was thinking to myself, 'OK, I need to be a superhero.'" Beyonce decided she wanted to play Wonder Woman after she saw the costume Lynda Carter _____ in the 1970s television series based on the superhero. Beyonce said it would be "_____ " to be able "to make everybody tell the truth," like Wonder Woman.

wore

appeared

thriller

role

handy

playing

former

emotional

LISTENING: Listen and fill in the spaces.

Singing superstar Beyonce has revealed she _____ role of Wonder Woman in a future superhero movie. Wonder Woman is one of the only superhero characters _____ movie. Beyonce told the Los Angeles Times blog: "I want to do a superhero movie _____ better than Wonder Woman?" She added: "It would be great. And it would be a very bold choice. A black Wonder Woman would be a powerful thing. _____, right?" It would indeed be a bold move by the movie _____ black Wonder Woman as all previous Hollywood superheroes have been white. It would _____ of Barack Obama's recent election success. Obama is, of course, America's first black president.

Taking _____ Wonder Woman would be Beyonce's latest movie role. The former Destiny's Child singer _____ in Austin Powers and Pink Panther movies. In 2006, she was nominated for a Golden Globe for her role in Dreamgirls. _____ theatres playing the singer Etta James in the movie Cadillac Records. She also has a major role in the new thriller Obsessed. Beyonce said: "After doing these roles, that _____, I was thinking to myself, 'OK, I need to be a superhero.'" Beyonce decided she wanted to play Wonder Woman _____ Lynda Carter wore in the 1970s television series based on the superhero. Beyonce said _____ to be able "to make everybody tell the truth," like Wonder Woman.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionaries / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words '**super**' and '**hero**'.

super	hero
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- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• revealed• only• better• powerful• previous• recent	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• latest• appeared• playing• major• costume• handy
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STUDENT SUPERHERO SURVEY

Write five GOOD questions about superheroes in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

SUPERHERO DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'superhero'?
- c) Who is your hero?
- d) Do you think Beyonce would be good as Wonder Woman?
- e) What kind of superhero is Wonder Woman?
- f) Would Hollywood be making a bold choice by having a black Wonder Woman?
- g) Who would be better than Beyonce at playing Wonder Woman ?
- h) Does it matter whether the Hollywood Wonder Woman is black or white?
- i) Do you have a favourite superhero character?
- j) Are there any world-famous superheroes that aren't American?

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SUPERHERO DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article?
- b) What kind of superhero would you be?
- c) Are you anyone's hero? Why?
- d) Do you think heroes and superheroes are necessary in today's world?
- e) Who were your heroes when you were a child?
- f) Are there any real-life superheroes in the world?
- g) Don't you think all superhero movies are the same?
- h) What kind of superhero powers would you like and why?
- i) Do you think it would be handy to be able to make everyone tell the truth? Why?
- j) What questions would you like to ask Beyonce?

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LANGUAGE

Singing superstar Beyonce has (1) ____ she wants to play the role of Wonder Woman in a future superhero movie. Wonder Woman is one of the only superhero characters never (2) ____ into a movie. Beyonce told the Los Angeles Times blog: "I want to (3) ____ a superhero movie and what would be better than Wonder Woman?" She added: "It would be great. And it would be a very bold choice. A black Wonder Woman would be a (4) ____ thing. It's time for that, right?" It would indeed be a bold move by the movie makers to have a black Wonder Woman as all (5) ____ Hollywood superheroes have been white. It would follow on the heels (6) ____ Barack Obama's recent election success. Obama is, of course, America's first black president.

Taking (7) ____ the role of Wonder Woman would be Beyonce's latest movie role. The former Destiny's Child singer has already appeared in Austin Powers and Pink Panther movies. In 2006, she was (8) ____ for a Golden Globe for her role in Dreamgirls. She will soon be in theatres (9) ____ the singer Etta James in the movie Cadillac Records. She also has a major role in the new thriller Obsessed. Beyonce said: "After doing these roles, that were so (10) ____, I was thinking to myself, 'OK, I need to be a superhero.'" Beyonce decided she wanted to play Wonder Woman after she saw the costume Lynda Carter (11) ____ in the 1970s television series based on the superhero. Beyonce said it would be "(12) ____" to be able "to make everybody tell the truth," like Wonder Woman.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) reveals | (b) revealing | (c) revelation | (d) revealed |
| 2. | (a) made | (b) did | (c) put | (d) created |
| 3. | (a) act | (b) do | (c) be | (d) put |
| 4. | (a) powered | (b) power | (c) powerful | (d) powerfully |
| 5. | (a) prevent | (b) previously | (c) previous | (d) preview |
| 6. | (a) from | (b) of | (c) for | (d) fro |
| 7. | (a) down | (b) to | (c) off | (d) on |
| 8. | (a) nominated | (b) nominates | (c) nomination | (d) nominate |
| 9. | (a) plays | (b) playing | (c) playfully | (d) played |
| 10. | (a) emotion | (b) emotionally | (c) emotions | (d) emotional |
| 11. | (a) wearing | (b) wear and tear | (c) wore | (d) wear off |
| 12. | (a) handy | (b) heady | (c) leggy | (d) hairy |

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about Wonder Woman. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MY HERO: Make a poster about your superhero. Include his/her powers and who he/she fights against. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. WONDER WOMAN: Write a magazine article about Wonder Woman and Superman. Include imaginary interviews with the two superheroes.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. LETTER: Write a letter to Wonder Woman. Ask her three questions about her life. Give her your three ideas on what she should do to save the world. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

6. DIARY / JOURNAL: You are a superhero. Write a diary entry about an average day in your life. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE:

- a. T b. F c. F d. F e. T f. F g. T h. T

SYNONYM MATCH:

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| 1. revealed | a. made it known |
| 2. movie | b. film |
| 3. bold | c. confident |
| 4. previous | d. earlier |
| 5. success | e. win |
| 6. role | f. part |
| 7. nominated | g. recommended |
| 8. major | h. big |
| 9. costume | i. outfit |
| 10. handy | j. useful |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. she wants to play the role | a. of Wonder Woman |
| 2. one of the only superhero characters never | b. made into a movie |
| 3. it would be a very bold | c. choice |
| 4. all previous Hollywood superheroes | d. have been white |
| 5. follow on the | e. heels of... |
| 6. Wonder Woman would be Beyonce's latest | f. movie role |
| 7. she was nominated for | g. a Golden Globe |
| 8. She also has a major role in | h. the new thriller |
| 9. she saw the costume | i. Lynda Carter wore |
| 10. Beyonce said it would be | j. "handy" |

GAP FILL:

Beyonce wants Wonder Woman role

Singing superstar Beyonce has revealed she wants to **play** the role of Wonder Woman in a future superhero movie. Wonder Woman is one of the only superhero characters **never** made into a movie. Beyonce told the Los Angeles Times blog: "I want to do a superhero movie and what would be better than Wonder Woman?" She added: "It would be great. And it would be a very **bold** choice. A black Wonder Woman would be a powerful **thing**. It's time for that, right?" It would **indeed** be a bold move by the movie makers to have a black Wonder Woman as all **previous** Hollywood superheroes have been white. It would **follow** on the heels of Barack Obama's recent election **success**. Obama is, of course, America's first black president.

Taking on the **role** of Wonder Woman would be Beyonce's latest movie role. The **former** Destiny's Child singer has already **appeared** in Austin Powers and Pink Panther movies. In 2006, she was nominated for a Golden Globe for her role in Dreamgirls. She will soon be in theatres **playing** the singer Etta James in the movie Cadillac Records. She also has a major role in the new **thriller** Obsessed. Beyonce said: "After doing these roles, that were so **emotional**, I was thinking to myself, 'OK, I need to be a superhero.'" Beyonce decided she wanted to play Wonder Woman after she saw the costume Lynda Carter **wore** in the 1970s television series based on the superhero. Beyonce said it would be "**handy**" to be able "to make everybody tell the truth," like Wonder Woman.

LANGUAGE WORK

- 1 - d 2 - a 3 - b 4 - c 5 - c 6 - b 7 - d 8 - a 9 - b 10 - d 11 - c 12 - a