

## C1 Advanced - Cross-text multiple matching

- A. Discuss the questions with a partner, giving reasons and examples.

Why might some people enjoy and others be opposed to these forms of entertainment?

stand-up comedy	the circus
horror films	zoos
reality television	video games
contact sports	



- B. Look at the following pairs of opinions. On what points do they agree or disagree?

Stand-up comedy is a form of art that allows comedians to express their unique perspectives and make people laugh.	Stand-up comedy is a great way for people to give their opinions and make others laugh, but it can also be offensive and divisive.
The circus is a form of entertainment that is exploitative to animals and should be phased out in favour of more humane alternatives.	The circus is outdated and should be replaced with more modern and innovative forms of performance art.
Horror films are a way for audiences to confront their fears and explore the darker side of human nature.	Horror films are a way to explore terror and emotion, but they can also be gory and violent.
Zoos are cruel to animals and should be replaced with wildlife preserves and conservation efforts.	Zoos are a way for people to learn about animals and their natural habitats, but they can also be poorly maintained.
Reality television is a guilty pleasure that can be entertaining, but empty-headed, offering a glimpse into the lives of others without any real depth or insight.	Reality television is a form of entertainment that can be addictive and shallow, offering little in the sense of being educational and informative.
Video games are a form of entertainment that can be addictive and harmful to one's mental and physical health.	Video games are a way to improve hand-eye coordination and problem-solving skills, but they can also be violent and desensitizing.
Contact sports are exciting to watch and participate in, but they can also lead to serious injuries and long-term health issues.	Contact sports are a great way to improve physical fitness and teamwork, but they can also be dangerous and cause physical suffering.

- C. Complete the exam task on the following page using the tips below.

1. Scan the text to identify the section of text that focuses on the necessary information.
2. Consider ways opinion can be expressed using verbs, adjectives and expressions.
3. Look for synonyms or antonyms.
4. Identify paraphrasing.
5. Read around the information to ensure the writer doesn't backtrack and offer similar, but different opinions.

You are going to read four reviews of a film entitled *The Greatest Showman*. For questions **1-4**, choose from reviews **A-D**. The reviews may be chosen more than once.

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## The Greatest Showman

*Four reviewers give their opinions on the modern musical starring Hugh Jackman.*

- A. The Greatest Showman is a visually breath-taking musical that tells the story of P.T. Barnum and the creation of the Barnum & Bailey Circus. The performances by the lead actors are all excellent, and the music is memorable. Although the story may be a bit cliché, it is still a heart-warming and uplifting tale about the power of imagination and the importance of accepting others for who they are. The film's message about chasing your dreams, no matter how impossible they may seem, is especially powerful and resonates with the audience. I would highly recommend this film for anyone looking for an evening of spectacle accompanied by a fantastic soundtrack that will leave you feeling inspired and uplifted.
- B. I found The Greatest Showman to be a bit underwhelming. While the visuals and music are certainly impressive, the story is overly simplistic and the characters lack depth. The film also skims over many of the more controversial aspects of Barnum's life and career, which feels like a sanitized version of history. Additionally, the film's message about inclusivity and acceptance feels forced and preachy accompanied by catchy modern pop tunes. The film's portrayal of the circus, one of the most controversial and debated entertainment of the time, is not deep enough and it fails to explore the darker sides of the industry. I wouldn't recommend this film for anyone looking for a serious historical drama, but it might be suitable for a family movie night.
- C. Films can sometimes leave a lasting impression and this is one of those. The grandiose and spectacular visual effects, combined with an outstanding cast, make it an unforgettable experience. The choreography is outstanding, but I was disappointed with the mostly pop oriented melodies which I found less fitting for the era and setting of the film. The story is a bit predictable, but it is still a heart-warming and entertaining film that celebrates the human spirit and the power of dreams. However, it should be noted that the movie takes a lot of creative liberties with the real history of P.T. Barnum and there are many historical inaccuracies present in the film. It is a good representation of the rags to riches story but it fails to explore the complexities of the man behind it. I highly recommend it to anyone who loves musicals and feel-good films but with the understanding that it's not an accurate representation of the life of P.T. Barnum.
- D. The Greatest Showman is a film that is both visually stunning and emotionally moving. The performances by the lead actors are out of this world, and the music hooks you from the start. The film does a great job of telling the story of P.T. Barnum and his circus, and it also explores important themes such as diversity, inclusivity, and the importance of having big dreams. However, the film is not without its shortcomings, some of the characters could have been more developed and the story a bit more original. The film's portrayal of the circus, which is definitely not without its own controversy, is shallow at best. Despite these shortcomings, I still found the film to be highly enjoyable and would recommend it to anyone looking for a feel-good movie to watch with loved ones.
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### Which reviewer...

1. shares reviewer C's view on the historical accuracy of the film?
2. has a different view from the others regarding the film's soundtrack?
3. shares D's thoughts on the development of the characters throughout the film?
4. has the same opinion to B about who would be good company for watching the film?

**ANSWER KEY**

B.

Stand-up comedy – They agree that comedy allows comedians to express their opinions

The circus – They both don't like the circus, but their opinions are of different elements

Horror films – They agree that horror films explore emotions

Zoos – They disagree that zoos are a good way to teach people about animals

Reality TV – They agree that reality TV lacks depth

Video games – they disagree about how video games relate to gamers' health

Contact sports – They agree about the danger of contact sports

C.

1. B - *The film also skims over many of the more controversial aspects of Barnum's life and career, which feels like a sanitized version of history*

2. C - *I was disappointed with the mostly pop oriented melodies which I found less fitting for the era and setting of the film*

3. B - *the characters lack depth*

4. D - *I still found the film to be highly enjoyable and would recommend it to anyone looking for a feel-good movie to watch with loved ones*