

SOLUTIONS INTERMEDIATE 4
UNIT 7: ARTISTS
MOVIE

PEGAH BAHOJB GHASEMI

7H

Writing

Article: a film review*I can write a film review.***Preparation**

Your teacher has asked you to write a film review for the school magazine. Write your review describing the film and say what you liked and didn't like about it.

- 1 Read the task above. Then read Writing Strategy 1 and the review below. Answer the questions.
 - a Where does each paragraph end?
Paragraph 1: A or B
Paragraph 2: C or D
Paragraph 3: E or F
 - b Has the writer followed the second piece of advice in the Strategy? Yes No

Writing Strategy 1

- 1 Give your review a logical structure. Divide it into paragraphs, each with its own topic or focus.
- 2 The conclusion should restate the main idea given in the introduction, but using different words. It should also include the writer's opinion and, if appropriate, a recommendation.



An extraordinary film about an extraordinary man!

If you're looking for a film that has romance and drama and makes you think, this is the one for you! I loved *The Theory of Everything*, from start to finish. **A** And I have no doubt that it'll remain one of my favourite films for many years to come! I'd definitely recommend it. **B** It is mostly set in Cambridge, England, and it tells the story of Stephen Hawking, a physicist at Cambridge University, who was diagnosed with motor neurone disease while still in his early twenties. We see how, with the help of Jane – his girlfriend and then wife – he overcame great physical disabilities to become probably the world's most famous scientist. **C** What I really loved about the film is the way it involves you in the characters. I felt that I really got to know them, and found their story incredibly moving. **D** I thought the acting was first-class, with superb performances from Eddie Redmayne and Felicity Jones. The film was also beautifully filmed, with lots of atmospheric shots of Cambridge. **E** I have only one small criticism. We learn a lot about Jane and Stephen's relationship, but we learn nothing about Stephen Hawking the scientist, and what motivates him. **F** Overall, however, this is a fantastic film. If you haven't seen it yet, get the DVD. You won't be disappointed! I guarantee it.

Writing Strategy 2

- 1 Choose a good title for your article.
- 2 In the first paragraph, attract the reader's attention. You can do this by addressing him / her directly, especially with questions.
- 3 Use an appropriate style and register for the target audience.

2 Read Writing Strategy 2 and answer questions 1–3 below.

- 1 Underline the sentence that attracts the reader's attention in the first paragraph.
- 2 Is the overall style formal or informal ?
- 3 Has the writer addressed both elements of the task?
Yes No

3 Tick the phrases for describing stories that the writer uses in the article. Which phrase cannot be used to describe a film?

1 It's set in (place and / or time).

2 There are lots of twists and turns.

3 It tells the story of (character).

4 I would definitely recommend it.

5 It's a real page-turner.

Phrase can't be used for films.

Writing Guide

- 4 You are going to do the task in exercise 1. Make notes about a film of your choice.

What I liked: _____

What I didn't like: _____

Overall opinion: _____

- 5 Write your review. Follow the structure of the model review in exercise 1, and use your notes from exercise 4. Use some phrases from exercise 3.

CHECK YOUR WORK



Have you ...

- given your article an interesting title and introduction?
- attracted the reader's attention in the first paragraph?
- divided your review into paragraphs?
- included your opinion and a recommendation?
- checked your spelling and grammar?



**BOOKS ARE THE
MIRRORS OF THE
SOUL.**

VIRGINIA WOOLF





CHARLES DICKENS








CONFIDENTIAL





**CAN YOU NAME
SOME OF THE
CONFIDENTIAL
JOBS?**



SPY





**ARE YOU A FAN
OF SPY NOVELS?**

7


Ian Fleming and James Bond


Before you watch

1 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Answer the questions.

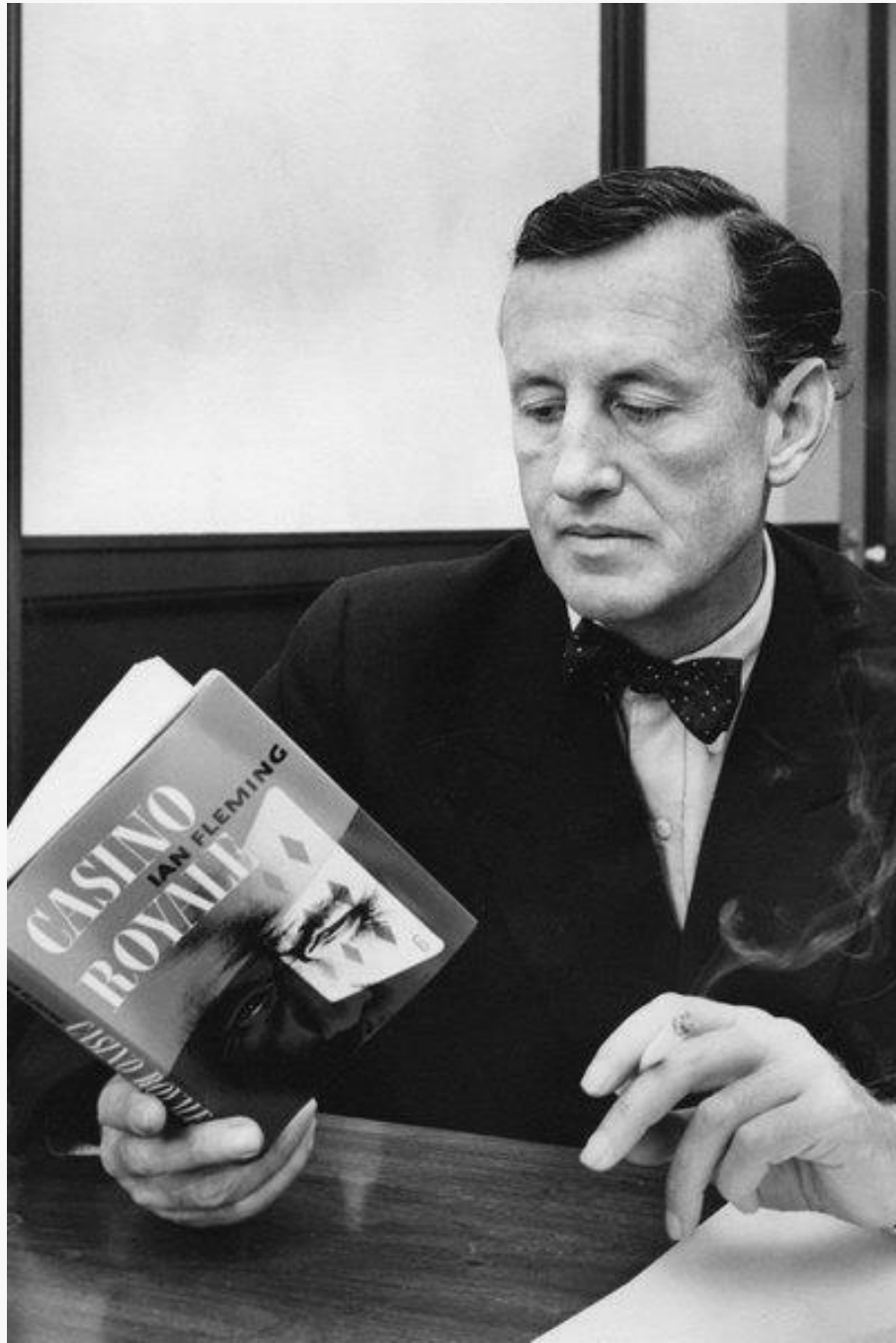
- 1 Who are your favourite film and book characters? Why?
- 2 Do you know any of Charles Dickens's books? If so, which ones?
- 3 Have you seen any James Bond films? If yes, which ones?

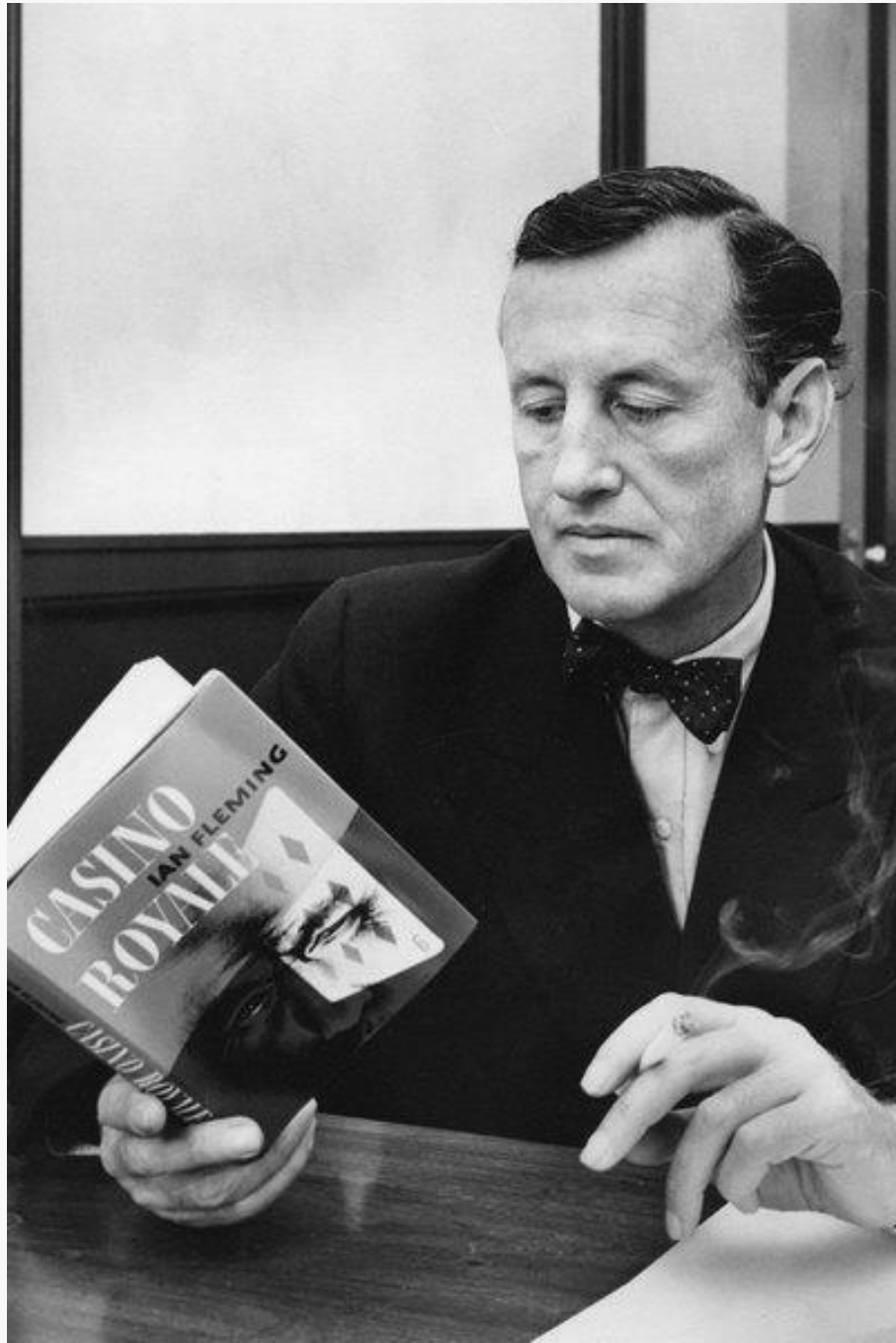
Comprehension check

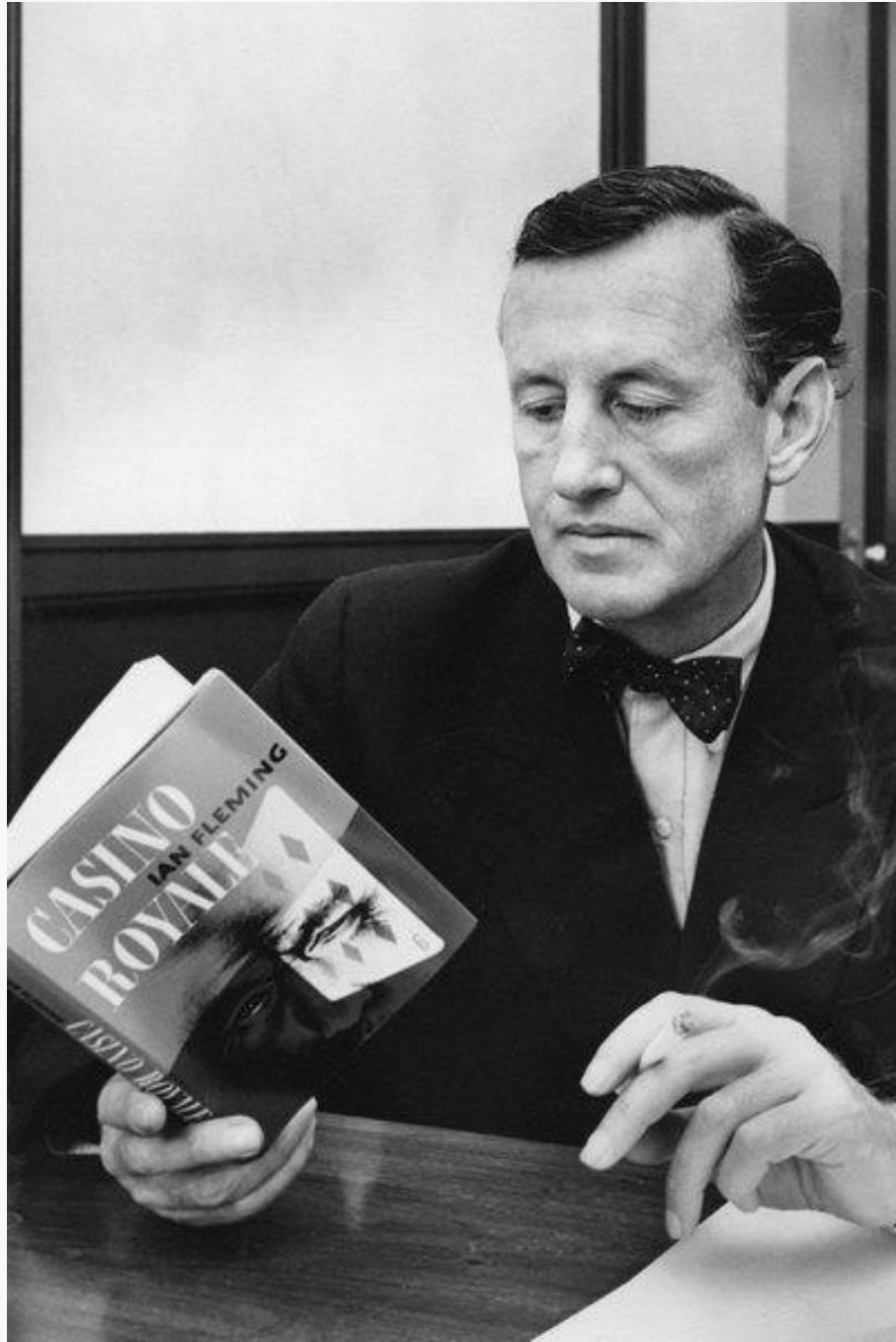
- 2  Watch the DVD clip. Are the sentences true or false?
- 1 Charles Dickens lived in the last century. **true / false**
 - 2 James Bond was originally a character in a Charles Dickens novel. **true / false**
 - 3 Ian Fleming came from a rich family. **true / false**
 - 4 He worked as a journalist during the Second World War. **true / false**
 - 5 Sean Connery played James Bond in the first Bond film. **true / false**



**WHAT WAS THE
BACKGROUND
STORY OF JAMES
BOND?**









Cold War



Ian Fleming's inspiration for the James Bond series of novels came from his own experience working in the Naval Intelligence Division during the Second World War. Bond is an officer in the Secret Intelligence Service, which is usually known as MI6 (Military Intelligence, Section 6). MI6 is responsible for supplying the British government with information and intelligence about foreign countries. During the time that Fleming was writing his novels, Britain had just fought the Second World War with Germany and was becoming engaged in the Cold War with the Soviet Union. These two themes are reflected in a number of the James Bond novels. In particular, the 'baddies', or evil characters, are often German or Russian or have links to those countries.

3  **Watch again. Choose the correct words.**

- 1 Charles Dickens had **a long beard / long hair**.
- 2 The DVD clip shows the Charles Dickens **Library / Museum** in London.
- 3 Ian Fleming was born in a large **terraced / detached** house in London.
- 4 At Eton College, students wear old-fashioned black **suits / shirts**.
- 5 Goldeneye, Fleming's house in Jamaica, is by **the beach / the mountains**.
- 6 Fleming wrote his novels **by hand / on a typewriter**.

4  **Watch again. Number the events (A–H) in the order that they happened.**

- A ___ Goldeneye was built in Jamaica.
- B ___ The Second World War started.
- C ___ Fleming went to Eton College.
- D ___ Fleming died.
- E ___ *Casino Royale* was published.
- F ___ Fleming became a journalist.
- G ___ Fleming joined the British secret service.
- H ___ The first Bond film was made.

Round up

5 **SPEAKING** Work in groups. Answer the questions.

Have you seen the latest James Bond film? If so, did you enjoy it? If not, would you like to see it? Why? / Why not?

Vocabulary

6 **RECYCLE** Complete the text with the words below.

created dramas directed novels plays wrote

Wolf Hall

Some critics are already saying that *Wolf Hall* is the one of the best TV ¹ _____ ever made. It was based on the ² _____ that Hilary Mantel ³ _____ about the life of Thomas Cromwell, who was one of Henry VIII's most important advisors. Damian Lewis, who you might recognise from the American TV series *Homeland*, ⁴ _____ King Henry. Peter Kosminsky ⁵ _____ the series, and along with the actors, designers and crew, he has ⁶ _____ a brilliant, atmospheric drama which is going to become a classic.

7 Complete the sentences with the words below.

adaptations blockbuster influenced phenomenon released

- 1 There have been lots of excellent TV _____ of the Sherlock Holmes stories.
- 2 His new novel was _____ by the experience he had in the army.
- 3 The next James Bond film will be _____ later in the year.
- 4 The Harry Potter series was a huge _____ in the book world.
- 5 Benedict Cumberbatch stars in the new _____, *Doctor Strange*.

Extension

8 Work in pairs. Think of a film that you have seen recently, do some research about it and then make a presentation about it. Include the following:

- information about the director, actors, locations
- a summary of the story
- your opinion of the film
- who you would recommend it to

9 Give your presentation to the class. Use the key phrases for stating an opinion and introducing a preference.

Stating an opinion

I'm a big fan of ...

I'm really keen on ...

I really can't stand ...

I'm not a big fan of ...

Introducing a preference

I must say, ...

To be honest, ...

To be frank, ...

Personally, ...