

Where's my Oscar?! 我的奥斯卡金像奖呢?

Vocabulary: movies 词汇: 电影

Have you ever dreamt of being in the movies? Maybe you're a bit of a **thespian**? But what if you don't have **matinee-idol** looks? Well, if you're creative and write well you could make your mark in Hollywood as a **screenwriter** instead.

Tony Gilroy is one of Hollywood's most **sought-after** screenwriters, with **blockbusters** such as *The Devil's Advocate*, *Armageddon* and *The Bourne Identity* **under his belt**.



Would you make a good screenwriter?

His advice to **budding** screenwriters is to **make stuff up** but keep it real. Gilroy believes knowing about human behaviour is the **deal-breaker**. According to him, "the quality of your writing will be directly related to your understanding of human behaviour".

He says: "You need to become a journalist for the movie that is in your head. You need to report on it; every **scene** has to be real."

Gilroy also thinks you've got to start with a very small idea that you can build on. For example, the Bourne films are based on novels by the writer Robert Ludlum, but Gilroy says he didn't actually read them. Instead he created a world around the **character** of Jason Bourne, a spy who has lost his memory and tries to discover his own identity.

Gilroy says: "The smallest thing with Bourne was, 'If I don't know who I am and I don't know where I'm from, perhaps I can identify who I am by what I know how to do'. We built a whole new world around that small idea."

In short, he explains: "You just start small, you build out and you move one step after the next and that's how you write a Hollywood movie".

One thing a screenwriter **can't do without** though, is a **thick skin**. You've got to learn how to handle **rejection**. Even when you're successful. Gilroy was nominated for an Oscar for his script for *Michael Clayton*, starring George Clooney. But the 2007 award in that category went to Brook Busey-Maurio, for her **debut** script for the film *Juno*.

So, do you think you have what it takes to consider a career in the movies?

词汇表请参看答案与词汇部分

Quiz 测验

阅读短文并回答问题。

1. Who wrote the script for the film Armageddon?
2. What do people have to know about when trying to write a good script?
3. What's Jason Bourne's mission?
4. Why it is advisable to have thick skin if you want to be a scriptwriter?
5. Which word means 'doing something for the first time'?

Exercise 练习

请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. I'm looking forward to watching this movie. It's this summer's _____.

deal-breaker	sought-after	blockbuster	film series
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2. I don't believe Stevie. He's always _____ to impress everybody!

keeping it real	under his belt	thick-skinned	making stuff up
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3. Ann can't take no for an answer. She simply doesn't know how to deal with _____.

a debut	rejection	a character	the matinee idol looks
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4. I'm _____ at heart. I'm always performing for my friends!

a thespian	a screenwriter	a spy	a character
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5. Strong coffee in the morning – that's something I just _____.

sought-after	keep it real	build out	can't do without
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Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

Quiz 小测验

1. Who wrote the script for the film Armageddon? **The Hollywood screenwriter Tony Gilroy.**
2. What do people have to know about when trying to write a good script? **Human behaviour.**
3. What's Jason Bourne's mission? **To discover his own identity.**
4. Why it is advisable to have thick skin if you want to be a scriptwriter? **Because you might have a lot of scripts rejected.**
5. Which word means 'doing something for the first time'? **Debut.**

Exercise 练习

1. I'm looking forward to watching this movie. It's this summer's **blockbuster.**
2. I don't believe Stevie. He's always **making stuff up** to impress everybody!
3. Ann can't take no for an answer. She simply doesn't know how to deal with **rejection.**
4. I'm **a thespian** at heart. I'm always performing for my friends!
5. Strong coffee in the morning – that's something I just **can't do without.**

Glossary 词汇表

thespian	戏剧演员
matinee-idol looks	有英俊潇洒男演员的长相
screenwriter	电影剧本作家, 编剧
sought-after	抢手的, 吃香的
under (his) belt	已获得的成就
blockbuster	卖座的大片
budding	初露头角的
to make stuff up	杜撰, 编造
deal-breaker	成败的决定性条件
scene	场景
character	角色
can't do without	不能没有的
thick skin	厚脸皮
rejection	拒绝
debut	处女作