

ZHANG ZIYI

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THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Zhang Ziyi, born in Beijing in 1979, is an actress who has worked with the best directors, both in her native China and in America. She said she would have become a kindergarten teacher if she hadn't got into acting. She has starred in many movies that have been worldwide hits and has won a string of awards.

When Zhang was 11, her parents sent her to the Beijing Dance Academy. They wanted their only child to be a star. She had a rough time there and on one occasion she ran away. She remembers the other girls being overly competitive and talking behind each other's backs. She graduated and joined the prestigious Central Academy of Drama, China's top acting college.

Zhang soon received many movie role offers. She got her first role in 1999 when she was 19, in 'The Road Home'. A year later she rose to fame as the character Jen in Ang Lee's 'Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon'. She won international awards for best supporting actress. In 2001, she appeared in Rush Hour 2, even though she couldn't speak English.

Zhang's next international hit was as Sayuri in 'Memoirs of a Geisha'. She received many nominations for best actress awards. She had also learnt English, helped by listening to Eminem songs. She said it was only later that she understood "how rude" the lyrics were. In 2006, Zhang became the youngest jury member to sit at the Cannes Film Festival.

243 words
Flesch Kinkaid 7.4

SYNONYM MATCH: Match the words from the article on the left with their synonyms on the right. Are your answers the same as other students'?

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. best | a. series |
| 2. got into | b. too |
| 3. string | c. finest |
| 4. rough | d. high ranking |
| 5. overly | e. taken up |
| 6. prestigious | f. hard |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 7. role | g. got |
| 8. fame | h. part |
| 9. appeared | i. words |
| 10. received | j. dirty |
| 11. rude | k. stardom |
| 12. lyrics | l. acted |

PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. ...if she hadn't got | a. couldn't speak English |
| 2. won a string | b. time there |
| 3. They wanted their only | c. fame as the character Jen |
| 4. She had a rough | d. for best actress awards |
| 5. talking behind each | e. into acting |
| 6. A year later she rose to | f. at the Cannes Film Festival |
| 7. ... even though she | g. of awards |
| 8. She received many nominations | h. other's backs |
| 9. it was only later that she understood | i. child to be a star |
| 10. the youngest jury member to sit | j. "how rude" the lyrics were |

LISTENING GAP FILL:

Zhang Ziyi, born in Beijing in 1979, is an actress _____ with the best directors, both _____ China and in America. She said she would have become a kindergarten teacher if _____ into acting. She has starred in many movies that have been worldwide hits and has won a _____.

When Zhang was 11, her parents _____ Beijing Dance Academy. They wanted their only child to be a star. She _____ there and on one occasion she ran away. She remembers the other girls being overly competitive and talking behind _____. She graduated and joined _____ Central Academy of Drama, China's top acting college.

Zhang soon received many _____. She got her first role in 1999 when she was 19, in 'The Road Home'. A year _____ to fame as the character Jen in Ang Lee's 'Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon'. She won international _____ supporting actress. In 2001, she appeared in Rush Hour 2, _____ couldn't speak English.

Zhang's next international _____ Sayuri in 'Memoirs of a Geisha'. She received many nominations for best actress awards. She had also learnt English, _____ to Eminem songs. She said it was only later that she understood "how rude" _____. In 2006, Zhang became the youngest jury member _____ Cannes Film Festival.

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD:

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs in italics.

Zhang Ziyi, born in Beijing in 1979, is an actress who *has / was* worked with the best directors, both in her *natives / native* China and in America. She said she would have become a kindergarten teacher if she hadn't got *into / in* acting. She has starred in many movies that have been worldwide hits and has won a *string / rope* of awards.

When Zhang was 11, her parents *sending / sent* her to the Beijing Dance Academy. They wanted their only child to be a star. She had a *rough / roughest* time there and on one occasion she *run / ran* away. She remembers the other girls being overly competitive and talking behind each other's *fronts / backs*. She graduated and joined the prestigious Central Academy of Drama, China's top acting college.

Zhang soon received many movie role offers. She *got / getting* her first role in 1999 when she was 19, in 'The Road Home'. A year later she *rose / risen* to fame as the character Jen in Ang Lee's 'Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon'. She won international awards *with / for* best supporting actress. In 2001, she appeared in Rush Hour 2, *ever / even* though she couldn't speak English.

Zhang's *next / after* international hit was as Sayuri in 'Memoirs of a Geisha'. She received *many / any* nominations for best actress awards. She had also learnt English, *helping / helped* by listening to Eminem songs. She said it was only later that she understood "how *rudeness / rude*" the lyrics were. In 2006, Zhang became the youngest jury member to sit at the Cannes Film Festival.

SPELLING:

These jumbled words are from the text. Spell them correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. worked with the best isdoterrc
2. in her navtie China
3. She has srtarde in many movies
4. a rnisgt of awards

Paragraph 2

5. only ihdcl
6. She had a uhorg time there
7. tikalgn behind each other's backs
8. China's top iatncg college

Paragraph 3

9. Zhang soon dreeviec many movie role offers
10. she rose to fame as the hcteararc Jen
11. She won international asrwad
12. even hgutoh she couldn't speak English

Paragraph 4

13. mieorMs of a Geisha'
14. tinlgseni to Eminem songs
15. she understood "how rude" the lcrsiy were
16. Zhang became the ugynstoe jury member

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () jury member to sit at the Cannes Film Festival.
- () though she couldn't speak English.
- () into acting. She has starred in many movies that have been worldwide hits and has won a string of awards.
- () later that she understood "how rude" the lyrics were. In 2006, Zhang became the youngest
- () When Zhang was 11, her parents sent her to the Beijing Dance Academy. They wanted their only
- () international awards for best supporting actress. In 2001, she appeared in Rush Hour 2, even
- () the prestigious Central Academy of Drama, China's top acting college.
- () being overly competitive and talking behind each other's backs. She graduated and joined
- () child to be a star. She had a rough time there and on one occasion she ran away. She remembers the other girls
- () China and in America. She said she would have become a kindergarten teacher if she hadn't got
- (**1**) Zhang Ziyi, born in Beijing in 1979, is an actress who has worked with the best directors, both in her native
- () actress awards. She had also learnt English, helped by listening to Eminem songs. She said it was only
- () Zhang's next international hit was as Sayuri in 'Memoirs of a Geisha'. She received many nominations for best
- () later she rose to fame as the character Jen in Ang Lee's Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon'. She won
- () Zhang soon received many movie role offers. She got her first role in 1999 when she was 19, in 'The Road Home'. A year

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With your partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. actress the who best has directors worked an with

2. kindergarten would teacher have She become said a she

3. be their a only star child They to wanted

4. ran she occasion one on away

5. talking other's behind backs each

6. A year later she rose to fame as the character Jen

7. best for awards international won She actress supporting

8. best for nominations many received She awards actress

9. understood rude lyrics she how the were

10. Zhang member jury youngest the became

ZHANG ZIYI DISCUSSION:

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

1. What do you know about Zhang Ziyi?
2. Would you like to have met Zhang Ziyi?
3. What would you like to know about Zhang Ziyi and why?
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

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ZHANG ZIYI DISCUSSION:

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

1. What did you learn from this text about Zhang Ziyi?
2. What questions would you like to have asked Zhang Ziyi?
3. What would her answers have been to those questions?
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

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ZHANG ZIYI SURVEY:

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

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

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

Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

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 more information about Zhang Ziyi. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. ZHANG ZIYI POSTER: Make a poster showing the different stages of the life of Zhang Ziyi. Show your poster to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all find out similar things?

4. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about Zhang Ziyi. Include an imaginary interview with her. Write about what she did every day and what she thought about.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to Zhang Ziyi. Ask her three questions about her life. Tell her how important she is in today's world and how she is missed. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your "Zhang Ziyi expert" partner(s) will try and answer your questions.

ANSWERS

SYNONYM MATCH:

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. best | a. finest |
| 2. got into | b. taken up |
| 3. string | c. series |
| 4. rough | d. hard |
| 5. overly | e. too |
| 6. prestigious | f. high ranking |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 7. role | g. part |
| 8. fame | h. stardom |
| 9. appeared | i. acted |
| 10. received | j. got |
| 11. rude | k. dirty |
| 12. lyrics | l. words |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. ...if she hadn't got | a. into acting |
| 2. won a string | b. of awards |
| 3. They wanted their only | c. child to be a star |
| 4. She had a rough | d. time there |
| 5. talking behind each | e. other's backs |
| 6. A year later she rose to | f. fame as the character Jen |
| 7. ... even though she | g. couldn't speak English |
| 8. She received many nominations | h. for best actress awards |
| 9. it was only later that she understood | i. "how rude" the lyrics were |
| 10. the youngest jury member to sit | j. at the Cannes Film Festival |

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Look at the text on page 2.