

# LUCY LIU

[http://www.famouspeoplelessons.com/l/lucy\\_liu.html](http://www.famouspeoplelessons.com/l/lucy_liu.html)

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## THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Lucy Liu is an American actress and artist. She was a Charlie's Angel and was the voice of Viper in 'Kung Fu Panda'. She has held several exhibitions of her painting and photography. She regularly donates the profits of her shows to UNICEF, for whom she is an ambassador. Liu is probably the most well-known Asian-American in the world.

Liu was born in 1968 and raised in Queens, New York by Taiwanese immigrant parents. She did not learn English until she was five years old. Her parents pushed her hard to study and she managed to get into a prestigious New York high school. She graduated from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor's degree in Asian Languages and Cultures.

Liu took up acting in 1989. She got lucky and landed small TV parts. She had a four-year stint in the popular TV series Ally McBeal. She played the feisty Ling Woo and audiences loved her. She hit the big time in 2000 in 'Charlie's Angels'. In 2003, Liu played the evil O-Ren Ishii in 'Kill Bill' and won the MTV award for Best Movie Villain.

Liu is known for her charitable work. In 2006, she starred in '3 Needles', a movie about HIV/AIDS. She agreed to receive a fraction of the usual pay because she wanted to raise awareness of AIDS in China. She has traveled to Pakistan, Lesotho and other countries with UNICEF. She has also highlighted the impact of human trafficking in Asia.

247 words  
Flesch Kinkaid 7.6

**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. several     | a. most likely  |
| 2. donates     | b. encouraged   |
| 3. probably    | c. a number of  |
| 4. raised      | d. high ranking |
| 5. pushed      | e. brought up   |
| 6. prestigious | f. gives        |

*Paragraphs 3 and 4*

- |                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 7. took up      | g. got           |
| 8. landed       | h. tiny amount   |
| 9. villain      | i. understanding |
| 10. fraction    | j. started       |
| 11. awareness   | k. smuggling     |
| 12. trafficking | l. bad guy       |

**PHRASE MATCH:** Match the following phrases from the article.

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. She has held several exhibitions      | a. immigrant parents      |
| 2. She regularly donates the profits     | b. AIDS in China          |
| 3. Taiwanese                             | c. small TV parts         |
| 4. Her parents pushed her                | d. audiences loved her    |
| 5. she managed to get into a prestigious | e. of her painting        |
| 6. She got lucky and landed              | f. trafficking in Asia    |
| 7. She played the feisty Ling Woo and    | g. New York high school   |
| 8. She agreed to receive a fraction      | h. of her shows to UNICEF |
| 9. raise awareness of                    | i. hard to study          |
| 10. highlighted the impact of human      | j. of the usual pay       |

**LISTENING GAP FILL:**

Lucy Liu is an American actress and artist. She was a Charlie's Angel and \_\_\_\_\_ Viper in 'Kung Fu Panda'. She \_\_\_\_\_ exhibitions of her painting and photography. She \_\_\_\_\_ profits of her shows to UNICEF, for whom she is an ambassador. Liu \_\_\_\_\_ well-known Asian-American in the world.

Liu was born in \_\_\_\_\_ Queens, New York by Taiwanese \_\_\_\_\_. She did not learn English until she was five years old. Her parents pushed \_\_\_\_\_ and she \_\_\_\_\_ a prestigious New York high school. She graduated from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor's degree in Asian Languages and Cultures.

Liu \_\_\_\_\_. She got lucky and landed small TV parts. She had a \_\_\_\_\_ the popular TV series Ally McBeal. She played the feisty Ling Woo and \_\_\_\_\_. She hit the big time in 2000 in 'Charlie's Angels'. In 2003, Liu played the evil O-Ren Ishii in 'Kill Bill' and won the MTV award \_\_\_\_\_.

Liu is known for \_\_\_\_\_. In 2006, she starred in '3 Needles', a movie about HIV/AIDS. She agreed \_\_\_\_\_ of the usual pay because she wanted to raise \_\_\_\_\_ in China. She has traveled to Pakistan, Lesotho and other countries with UNICEF. She has also highlighted the \_\_\_\_\_ trafficking in Asia.

## CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD:

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

Lucy Liu is an American actress and *artistry / artist*. She was a Charlie's Angel and was the *voice / vocal* of Viper in 'Kung Fu Panda'. She has held several exhibitions of her painting and photography. She regularly *donation / donates* the profits of her shows to UNICEF, for whom she is an ambassador. Liu is probably the *best / most* well-known Asian-American in the world.

Liu was born in 1968 and *raised / risen* in Queens, New York by Taiwanese immigrant *parent / parents*. She did not learn English *by / until* she was five years old. Her parents pushed her hard to study and she *managed / management* to get into a prestigious New York high school. She graduated from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor's degree in Asian Languages and Cultures.

Liu took up acting in 1989. She got lucky and *landed / landing* small TV parts. She had a four-year *stunt / stint* in the popular TV series Ally McBeal. She played the feisty Ling Woo and audiences *loved / loving* her. She hit the big *clock / time* in 2000 in 'Charlie's Angels'. In 2003, Liu played the evil O-Ren Ishii in 'Kill Bill' and won the MTV award for Best Movie Villain.

Liu is known for her charitable *workings / work*. In 2006, she starred in '3 Needles', a movie about HIV/AIDS. She agreed to receive a *fraction / friction* of the usual pay because she wanted to *rise / raise* awareness of AIDS in China. She has traveled to Pakistan, Lesotho and other countries with UNICEF. She has also highlighted the impact of human *trafficking / traffic* in Asia.

**SPELLING:**

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

*Paragraph 1*

1. the ecoiv of Viper in 'Kung Fu Panda'
2. She has held ryleesa exhibitions of her painting
3. She regularly atnoesd the profits of her shows
4. Liu is rylbbpoa the most well-known Asian-American

*Paragraph 2*

5. born in 1968 and irседа in Queens
6. Her parents heupsd her hard
7. gdmaane to get into a prestigious New York high school
8. a Bachelor's dgeere in Asian Languages and Cultures

*Paragraph 3*

9. She got uckyI
10. a four-year stint in the alporup TV series Ally McBeal
11. ineaudsec loved her
12. the MTV award for Best Movie nliVila

*Paragraph 4*

13. Liu is known for her bhtcieraal work
14. receive a fornaitc of the usual pay
15. reasi awareness
16. the caitpm of human trafficking

## PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) parents. She did not learn English until she was five years old. Her parents pushed her hard to study and she managed
- ( ) Liu is known for her charitable work. In 2006, she starred in '3 Needles', a movie about HIV/AIDS. She agreed
- ( ) of Viper in 'Kung Fu Panda'. She has held several exhibitions of her painting and photography. She regularly donates the
- ( ) time in 2000 in 'Charlie's Angels'. In 2003, Liu played the evil
- ( ) Liu took up acting in 1989. She got lucky and landed small TV parts. She had a four-year stint in the popular
- ( ) with a Bachelor's degree in Asian Languages and Cultures.
- ( ) TV series Ally McBeal. She played the feisty Ling Woo and audiences loved her. She hit the big
- ( ) to receive a fraction of the usual pay because she wanted to raise awareness of AIDS in China. She has
- ( ) highlighted the impact of human trafficking in Asia.
- ( ) profits of her shows to UNICEF, for whom she is an ambassador. Liu is probably the most well-known Asian-American in the world.
- ( **1** ) Lucy Liu is an American actress and artist. She was a Charlie's Angel and was the voice
- ( ) Liu was born in 1968 and raised in Queens, New York by Taiwanese immigrant
- ( ) to get into a prestigious New York high school. She graduated from the University of Michigan
- ( ) O-Ren Ishii in 'Kill Bill' and won the MTV award for Best Movie Villain.
- ( ) traveled to Pakistan, Lesotho and other countries with UNICEF. She has also

## SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

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

1. held has She painting her of exhibitions several

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2. She shows her of profits the donates regularly

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3. was learn five English She until did she not

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4. hard study parents her to Her pushed

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5. New York high prestigious get school into a

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6. Liu 1989 in acting up took

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7. time 'Charlie's Angels' She the big hit in 2000 in

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8. MTV the won Villain Movie Best for award

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9. for charitable Liu known her work is

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10. wanted raise of she to awareness AIDS

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## LUCY LIU DISCUSSION:

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

1. What do you know about Lucy Liu?
2. Would you like to have met Lucy Liu?
3. What would you like to know about Lucy Liu and why?
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

## LUCY LIU DISCUSSION:

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

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

## LUCY LIU SURVEY:

Write five questions about Lucy Liu 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.**

**WRITING:**

Write about Lucy Liu for 10 minutes. Show your partner your paper. Correct each other's work.

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## 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 Lucy Liu. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. LUCY LIU POSTER:** Make a poster showing the different stages of the life of Lucy Liu. 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 Lucy Liu. 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 Lucy Liu. 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 "Lucy Liu expert" partner(s) will try and answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## SYNONYM MATCH:

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- |    |             |    |              |
|----|-------------|----|--------------|
| 1. | several     | a. | a number of  |
| 2. | donates     | b. | gives        |
| 3. | probably    | c. | most likely  |
| 4. | raised      | d. | brought up   |
| 5. | pushed      | e. | encouraged   |
| 6. | prestigious | f. | high ranking |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- |     |             |    |               |
|-----|-------------|----|---------------|
| 7.  | took up     | g. | started       |
| 8.  | landed      | h. | got           |
| 9.  | villain     | i. | bad guy       |
| 10. | fraction    | j. | tiny amount   |
| 11. | awareness   | k. | understanding |
| 12. | trafficking | l. | smuggling     |

## PHRASE MATCH:

- |     |                                       |    |                        |
|-----|---------------------------------------|----|------------------------|
| 1.  | She has held several exhibitions      | a. | of her painting        |
| 2.  | She regularly donates the profits     | b. | of her shows to UNICEF |
| 3.  | Taiwanese                             | c. | immigrant parents      |
| 4.  | Her parents pushed her                | d. | hard to study          |
| 5.  | she managed to get into a prestigious | e. | New York high school   |
| 6.  | She got lucky and landed              | f. | small TV parts         |
| 7.  | She played the feisty Ling Woo and    | g. | audiences loved her    |
| 8.  | She agreed to receive a fraction      | h. | of the usual pay       |
| 9.  | raise awareness of                    | i. | AIDS in China          |
| 10. | highlighted the impact of human       | j. | trafficking in Asia    |

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Look at the text on page 2.