

A Spider-Man actor had a terrible accident in a theatre on Broadway. How did the audience feel about it? Watch this short clip to find out.

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises to check your understanding. If you need help, you can read the transcript at any time.

Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–h next to the number 1–8.

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|--------|----------------|----|---|
| 1..... | a climax | a. | to have as a plan or a purpose |
| 2..... | to intend | b. | to make something happen at a later time than originally planned |
| 3..... | a stunt double | c. | hurt or physically harmed |
| 4..... | to plunge | d. | the most interesting or exciting part of something, especially a story, play or movie |
| 5..... | scripted | e. | to neither gain nor lose, especially with money |
| 6..... | injured | f. | a person who performs the dangerous action or scene instead of an actor |
| 7..... | to delay | g. | written or planned at an earlier time, especially for a speech or a performance |
| 8..... | to break even | h. | to fall or jump from a high place |

1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

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|----|--|-------------|--------------|
| 1. | Producers planned that the stunt double would fall into the orchestra pit. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. | The audience didn't know if the fall was scripted or not. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. | Christopher Tierney was the first actor to be hurt during the making of the musical. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. | 'Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark' is the most expensive Broadway production ever. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. | People already have tickets to the show. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. | The show is putting new safety measures into practice. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 7. | The musical will open on time. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 8. | It is likely that the show will make enough money to regain its costs. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

2. Check your understanding: ordering

Write a number (1-7) to put these sentences in order.

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|-------|---|
| | The cable holding the stunt double breaks. |
| | The stunt double dives off the platform. |
| | New safety measures are planned. |
| | The stunt double hits the ground. |
| | People talk and think about the show because of the accident. |
| | The media report the accident. |
| | People in the audience call for help. |

3. Check your understanding: gap fill

Complete the gaps with a number from the box.

40 million	five	1st	fourth
thirty	2,000	911	one

1. The stunt double plunged _____ feet into the orchestra pit.
2. After the performer hit the ground, people called _____ to get help.
3. Tierney was the _____ actor to be hurt during previews of the musical.
4. 'Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark' cost over £_____ to make.
5. The show would have to sell out for nearly _____ years just to break even.
6. The Foxwoods Theatre has almost _____ seats.
7. One woman has tickets for March _____.
8. The musical is a high-risk show in more ways than _____.

4. Check your vocabulary: multiple choice

Some words have several different meanings. Circle the meaning used in the video.

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|--|--|
| <p>1. snap
(The stunt double's cable snapped.)</p> | <p>a. to use your thumb and fingers to make a short, sharp sound
b. to break suddenly
c. to say something in an angry way</p> |
| <p>2. pit
(The stunt double plunged into the orchestra pit.)</p> | <p>a. a hole in the ground, usually made by digging
b. the seed or stone in the centre of certain fruits, like peaches
c. the space in a theatre where the musicians play from</p> |
| <p>3. sell out
(The show has to sell out in order to break even.)</p> | <p>a. to sell all the available tickets for a performance
b. to betray your ideals
c. to sell the goods of someone who owes money to pay the creditor</p> |
| <p>4. prove
(Selling all the tickets to the musical could prove to be a superhuman task.)</p> | <p>a. to show the truth of something, by showing evidence
b. to show a particular quality after a period of time, or turn out to be
c. to determine the quality of something by testing it</p> |
| <p>5. press
(The musical couldn't buy press like that.)</p> | <p>a. a machine used to print books, magazines and newspapers
b. a business that prints and sells books
c. newspaper, magazine, radio or news reports</p> |
| <p>6. measure
(New safety measures are being put into practice.)</p> | <p>a. a way of achieving something or dealing with a situation
b. a unit of size
c. an amount or degree of something</p> |

Do you like going to the theatre?

Would you like to go and see the new Spider-Man show if you had the chance?