Have you ever seen a fantastic place in a movie and asked yourself: Where was that filmed? These days it can be difficult to know if a movie location is real, or if it was created in a studio or on a computer with CGI. All the following places were used without alteration as locations for some of the world's most famous franchises. After a location is seen in a blockbuster* movie, once-quiet places can become popular tourist attractions. Now some of these places are visited by thousands of fans every year.



In the opening scene of the Bond movie Spectre there was a Day of the Dead parade. The parade was invented for the movie; it wasn't a real Mexican tradition. The movie was released in 2015, and in 2016 there was a huge celebration and parade in Mexico City, just like in the Bond movie. After the movie, the parade became an annual tradition.

These special "hobbit houses" were created for the Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit movies. They are in Matamata, in New Zealand. Today, this location is called "Hobbiton," and is a visitor attraction.





These are the Iguazu Falls on the Brazilian and Argentinian border. The stunning waterfall scene in the Indiana Jones movie The Kingdom of the Crystal Skull was shot here. You can hear the roaring sound of the water from miles away.

The Divergent movies are set in a Chicago of the future, and lots of key scenes were shot in the city. The Seventeenth Church of Christ was used in the first movie for the "choosing ceremony," where the 16-year-olds of the city are put into different groups for life.

* blockbuster = having enormous commercial success



Talk about facts

1 Look at the pictures. Can you guess the movies from the locations? Use the names of the movies in the box.

The Hobbit Divergent James Bond Indiana Jones

- 2 **1** 048 Read and listen Which of the pictures shows a place in ...
 - a the U.S?

c Mexico?

b Argentina and

Brazil?

d New Zealand?

is a modern religious building. 2 An area in

which now has a name related to a movie.

3 Complete the sentences with the real names

of the places in the pictures.

are located on the Argentinian and Brazilian border.

now has a parade like the one shown in the movie.

Passive: Simple present and simple past

4 Look at the highlighted phrases in the text. What tense are they? Complete the chart with the words in the box.

was/were by past participle is/are

| The passive the verb be | e is formed using the | correct form of |
|---|---|-------------------|
| Use ² simple pres | ent passive and ³ | (not) for the |
| | (not) for the sim | ple past passive. |
| When you v (the agent), | vant to say who doe use ⁴ | s/did the action |

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- 5 Underline other passive sentences in the text.
- 6 Complete the sentences with the correct passive form of the verbs in parentheses.

| 1 | In the past, movies and white. | (shot) in black |
|---|--|-----------------|
| 2 | The Sistine Chapel (not paint) by Leonardo da Vi | nci! |
| 3 | Today, a lot of cars in Mexico. | (produce) |
| 4 | The movie <i>Mary Poppins</i> (release) in 1964. | |
| 5 | Havaianas flip-flops in Brazil. | (make) |
| 6 | These days, top movie stars \$20–30 million per movie! | (pay) |
| 7 | In the past, special effects (not create) w | ith a computer. |

- 7 Rewrite the sentences in the passive form. Use by + the agent only when it is necessary.
 - 1 J.R.R. Tolkien wrote The Hobbit.
 - 2 Chris Hemsworth plays Thor.
 - 3 They release blockbuster movies during the school vacations.
 - 4 The Americans didn't build the Statue of Liberty.
 - 5 Steven Spielberg didn't direct those movies.
- 8 Are the sentences active or passive? Choose the correct alternatives.
 - 1 Shakespeare wrote / was written Hamlet.
 - 2 The movie based / is based on a true story.
 - 3 The main character didn't play / wasn't played by a professional actor.
 - 4 Apple and Samsung make / are made popular types of cell phone.
 - 5 The movie doesn't set / isn't set in the present.
 - 6 The composer wrote / was written the soundtrack.

Passive: interrogative form

be + subject + past participle?

"Was the movie directed by Angelina Jolie?" "Yes, it was." "Where is Jurassic World set?" "On a fictional island."

9 Write the questions for the answers.

| | Where is Mandarin spoken? | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| | Mandarin is spoken in China. | | |
| 1 | What time | ? | |
| | In the hotel, breakfast is served from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. | | |
| 2 | What year | | |
| | ? | | |
| | The Old Man and the Sea was published in 1952. | | |
| 3 | How many | ? | |
| | Over a trillion plastic bags are used each year! | | |
| 4 | When | ? | |
| | The Giza pyramids were built around 2500 BC. | | |

10 Pairwork Write the trivia questions. Then try to guess the answers.

I think the world's first movie was made in France in 1895.



- 2 What / the first music video / play / on MTV?
 - a Thriller by Michael Jackson
 - b Video Killed the Radio Star by The Buggles
 - c Smells Like Teen Spirit by Nirvana
- 3 In which Californian city / The Big Bang Theory set?
 - a Los Angeles
- **b** San Diego
- c Pasadena
- 4 How many hours of video / post / on YouTube every minute?
- **b** 150
- **c** over 300
- 5 In which year / the first Spider-Man movie / release?
 - a 2002
- **b** 2004
- c 2006
- 6 How many people / Netflix / use by?
 - a 10 million
- b 100 million
- c 1 billion

10 049 Now listen and check your answers.



Write True/False sentences about your favorite movies, TV shows, books, and songs and test your classmates.