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Level 1

Academy Awards are 'for white men'

20th January, 2015

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1501/150120-academy-awards-1.html>

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1501/150120-academy-awards-1.html>

People are angry that the movie industry is run by "old white men". In the Oscar nominations, all 20 of the actors who could win an Oscar are white. There are no women in the directing or writing categories. A survey found that the members of the academy were 94 per cent white, largely male, with an average age of 62. The members decide who gets nominated for an Oscar. Critics say there is too little diversity in the Oscars.

A civil rights campaigner criticised the Academy for being like the Rocky Mountains – "the higher you get, the whiter it gets". He said: "The lack of diversity in [the] Oscar nominations is [terrible]." The movie nominated for this year's 'Best Picture' award is about racism, but no non-white actors are up for an award. The president of the Academy said the members do not look at an actor's colour or gender. She hoped Hollywood would become more diverse.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-30862139>
<http://www.nydailynews.com/entertainment/movies/academy-president-speaks-oscars-firestorm-article-1.2082198>
<http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/01/15/us-awards-oscars-diversity-idUSKBN0KO2L920150115>

VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1501/150120-academy-awards-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. all 20 | a. decide |
| 2. the directing or | b. age of 62 |
| 3. members of the academy were | c. of the actors |
| 4. largely | d. little diversity |
| 5. an average | e. writing categories |
| 6. he members | f. male |
| 7. who gets nominated | g. 94 per cent white |
| 8. Critics say there is too | h. for an Oscar |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. A civil rights | a. of diversity |
| 2. like the Rocky | b. 'Best Picture' |
| 3. the higher you get, | c. Mountains |
| 4. The lack | d. up for an award |
| 5. The movie nominated for this year's | e. campaigner |
| 6. no non-white actors are | f. become more diverse |
| 7. members do not look at an actor's | g. the whiter it gets |
| 8. She hoped Hollywood would | h. colour or gender |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1501/150120-academy-awards-1.html>

People (1) _____ movie industry is run by "old white men". In the Oscar nominations, (2) _____ who could win an Oscar are white. There (3) _____ the directing or writing categories. A survey (4) _____ members of the academy were 94 per cent white, largely male, with (5) _____ 62. The members decide who gets nominated for an Oscar. Critics say there is (6) _____ in the Oscars.

A (7) _____ criticised the Academy for being like the Rocky Mountains - "the higher you get, (8) _____". He said: "The (9) _____ in [the] Oscar nominations is [terrible]." The movie (10) _____ year's 'Best Picture' award is about racism, but no non-white actors (11) _____. The president of the Academy said the members do not look at an actor's (12) _____. She hoped Hollywood would become more diverse.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1501/150120-academy-awards-1.html>

People are angry that the movie industry is run by "old white men". In the Oscar nominations, all 20 of the actors who could win an Oscar are white. There are now women in the directing or writing categories. A survey found that the members of the academy were 94 percent white, largely male, with an average age of 62. The members decide who gets nominated for an Oscar. Critics say there is too little diversity in the Oscars. A civil rights campaigner criticised the Academy for being like the Rocky Mountains – "the higher you get, the whiter it gets". He said: "The lack of diversity in [the] Oscar nominations is [terrible]." The movie nominated for this year's 'Best Picture' award is about racism, but no non-white actors are up for an award. The president of the Academy said the members do not look at an actor's colour or gender. She hoped Hollywood would become more diverse.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)
