

Brad Pitt movie scares farm animals

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via Kevin Walsk on flickr.com



A movie produced by Hollywood actor Brad Pitt has made the headlines for scaring farm animals. The movie is called 'The Lost City of Z' and is set in

the 1920s. Filming is taking place in the countryside in Northern Ireland in the U.K. The story is about a British soldier and spy who disappeared into the Brazilian jungle in 1925 with his son. They were searching for a lost civilisation the soldier called Z. He was never seen again. Film makers needed to create explosions and other loud noises for the movie's special effects. However, locals and farmers in the town of Ballygally complained that the loud bangs frightened their animals. No one knows if Mr Pitt was in the town at the time as he is not acting in the film.

Local people in the town said the explosions began on September 14 and gradually became bigger and louder. Some locals said it sounded like there was a war going on as the noise shook windows in houses. One farmer spoke to reporters about how his animals were "terrified". He said: "The dog was shivering under a chair and the hens had all gone. Then I heard there had been another explosion while I was out...Another neighbour's cow and calf jumped the hedge and the cows were crying in fear." Mr Pitt may do something special for the local people as he is a famous animal rights activist and might be upset if he heard animals had suffered because of his film.

Sources: *TheGuardian.com* / *VanityFair.com* / *Mashable.com*

Writing

Animals should never be used in movies. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

movie / headlines / farm animals / countryside / soldier / jungle / explosions / acting / gradually / louder / windows / terrified / crying / something special / animal rights

True / False

- A movie made in Hollywood has frightened farm animals. T / F
- The movie is about something that happened between 1920 and 1929. T / F
- The movie is about two men who got lost in the Brazilian jungle.
- Brad Pitt is one of the stars who acts in the movie. T / F
- Local people said the explosions were loud at first and then got quieter. T / F
- A local person said the explosion shattered the windows in his house. T / F
- Two cows jumped over a hedge in fear. T / F
- Brad Pitt is well known for caring about animals. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. scaring | a. vanished |
| 2. taking place | b. journalists |
| 3. disappeared | c. protested |
| 4. create | d. well known |
| 5. complained | e. make |
| 6. gradually | f. frightening |
| 7. reporters | g. fence |
| 8. hedge | h. troubled |
| 9. famous | i. happening |
| 10. upset | j. slowly |

Discussion – Student A

- What are the bad things about making a movie near a town?
- Why do you think the movie was not made in Hollywood?
- Should the film makers have stopped filming if there scared animals?
- Is what happened cruelty to animals?
- What does an animal rights activist do?
- Who is your favourite actor and why?
- What advice do you have for the film makers?
- What questions would you like to ask Brad Pitt?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. made the | a. bigger and louder |
| 2. set in the | b. activist |
| 3. noises for the movie's special | c. their animals |
| 4. the loud bangs frightened | d. going on |
| 5. No one knows if Mr Pitt was | e. had suffered |
| 6. gradually became | f. headlines |
| 7. it sounded like there was a war | g. effects |
| 8. The dog was shivering | h. in the town |
| 9. a famous animal rights | i. 1920s |
| 10. be upset if he heard animals | j. under a chair |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What are the good things about making a movie near a town?
- How do you think this movie sounds?
- What do you think of Brad Pitt?
- What could film makers do instead of making explosions?
- How could the film makers not have frightened the animals?
- What kind of movies do you like?
- What advice do you have for the local people?

Spelling

- udrpdcoe by Hollywood actor Brad Pitt
- made the Inseihade
- in the tindyerucso
- rpsaidpdae into the Brazilian jungle
- eoslopisxn and other loud noises
- farmers in the town of Ballygally coadlnepmi
- galldayru became bigger
- his animals were fiertredei
- The dog was srinvigeh
- jumped the ehgde
- a famous animal rights tciastvi
- upset if he heard animals had erudfefs

Answers – Synonym Match

| | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. f | 2. i | 3. a | 4. e | 5. c |
| 6. j | 7. b | 8. g | 9. d | 10. h |

Role Play

Role A – Action

You think action movies are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their movies. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): science fiction, horror or comedy.

Role B – Science Fiction

You think science fiction movies are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their movies. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): comedy, horror or action.

Role C – Comedy

You think horror movies are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their movies. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): science fiction, horror or action.

Role D – Horror

You think action movies are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their movies. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): science fiction, horror or comedy.

Speaking – Movies

Rank these with your partner. Put the best kind of movies at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|------------|-------------------|
| • romance | • action |
| • comedy | • science fiction |
| • fantasy | • horror |
| • thriller | • animation |

Answers – True False

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| a | F | b | T | c | T | d | F | e | F | f | F | g | T | h | T |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.