

## The Harry Potter Studio Tour

Hands up who hasn't heard of Harry Potter! I can't believe there is anyone who hasn't heard of him. Just in case you haven't - he is a fictional boy wizard created by British author J.K. Rowling. For those Harry Potter fans that have read the books and seen the movies I have some good news. Now you can visit the Harry Potter movie set where many of the scenes were shot. You can do this by visiting the Leavesden Studios near Watford, Hertfordshire, in the UK, where all eight films were made over the course of a decade. The *Harry Potter Studio Tour* offers fans the opportunity to see behind-the-scenes look at how the films were made. Visitors will be able to see the sets, props and costumes that appeared in the movies. You can wander down the cobbles of Diagon Alley, inspect the table settings in the Great Hall at Hogwarts, gaze at the bookshelves in Dumbledore's office and peer through the windows of number four Privot Drive. Other things to see include Hermione's cloak, Harry's broomstick and Hagrid's motorcycle.

The highlight of the tour is seeing the model of Hogwarts. Built to 1:24 scale, it was used in the exterior shots for the first six films. The attention to detail is incredible; with 3,000 fibre-optic lights fitted inside and turned on as the night sky darkens. Some of the wonderful creatures J.K. Rowling dreamt up are also on display including Dobby the House Elf. Videos explain how the films were made, like the Quidditch stunts. Some people might think however that the ticket prices are expensive. The prices are £21 for a child ages 5-15, £28 for an adult, £83 for a family of four. The prices are comparable to the likes of Alton Towers. You'll need three hours to enjoy the Harry Potter moment. Visitors can stop off at the gift shop. This could leave you seriously out of pocket as there are mountains of Potter merchandise for you to buy.

Unfortunately, there's no chance of perching on Harry's dorm room bed or settling down in Hagrid's hut as rooms are cordoned off behind ropes. But you will be able to sit astride a broomstick as the streets of London fly past you via the green screen room. Warner Bros are expecting 5,000 people a day to come through the doors.

**The Warner Bros Studio Tour – The Making of Harry Potter opened on March 31.**

**Category: Films / Harry Potter / Studio Tour**  
**Level: Intermediate / Upper intermediate**

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### Your top 5 Harry Potter moments

#### Characters

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_

#### Top moments from films/books

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_

#### Stunts

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_

#### Locations

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_

#### Magic bits

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_

#### Props

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_

## EXERCISES

**1. Harry Potter:** Think of three things you know about Harry Potter. Go round the room swapping details with others.

**2. Dictation:** The teacher will read four to six lines of the article slowly and clearly. Students will write down what they hear. The teacher will repeat the passage slowly again. Self-correct your work from page one - filling in spaces and correcting mistakes. Be honest with yourself on the number of errors. Advise the teacher of your total number of errors. Less than five is very good. Ten is acceptable. Any more is room for improvement! More than twenty - you need to do some work!

**3. Reading:** The students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

**4. Vocabulary:** Students should now look through the article and underline any vocabulary they do not know. Look in dictionaries. Discuss and help each other out. The teacher will go through and explain any unknown words or phrases.

**5. The article:** Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- a) What is the article about?
- b) What do you think about the article?

**6. Harry Potter moments:** In pairs, small groups or as a class fill in the Harry Potter moments on page 2. Discuss together.

**7. Let's think!** In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can to do with **Harry Potter**. *One-two minutes*. Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

**8. Let's roleplay 1: BBC Radio 5:** In pairs/groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *BBC Radio 5* radio studio in London. Today's interview is about: *The Harry Potter Studio Tour*. *10 minutes*.

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | A journalist               |
| 2 | J.K. Rowling               |
| 3 | Harry Potter film producer |
| 4 | A fan                      |

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

**9. Let's roleplay 2:** In pairs. You are in the Hogwarts Great Hall. Start a conversation about 'Harry Potter'... *5-minutes*.

**10. Presentation:** In pairs, groups or individually: Prepare in class or at home a two minute presentation on: 'Harry Potter' Stand at the front of the class to give your presentation to the class. The class can vote on the best presentation.

The Harry Potter Studio Tour – 15<sup>th</sup> April 2012

11. Let's do 'The Article Quiz': Have the students quiz each other in pairs. They score a point for each correct answer and half a point each time they have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

**Student A**

- 1) Name the boy wizard!
- 2) Name the author.
- 3) Name the 'office'.
- 4) Name the 'alley'.
- 5) Whose motorcycle can you see?

**Student B**

- 1) How much is an adult ticket?
- 2) Name the movie company.
- 3) Explain what Alton Towers is.
- 4) What is Quidditch?
- 5) What can you do in the green room?

12. Let's write an e-mail: Write and send a 200 word e-mail to your teacher about: **Harry Potter**. Your e-mail can be read out in class.

13. Sentence starters: Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

a) Harry Potter \_\_\_\_\_

b) J.K. Rowling \_\_\_\_\_

## Harry Potter Quick Quiz – Ask your classmates!

In pairs think of five questions about Harry Potter. (You need to know the answers!)

Question 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Answer \_\_\_\_\_

Question 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Answer \_\_\_\_\_

Question 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Answer \_\_\_\_\_

Question 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Answer \_\_\_\_\_

Question 5 \_\_\_\_\_

Answer \_\_\_\_\_

## DISCUSSION

### Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) How many of the Harry Potter books have you read?
- 3) How many of the films have you seen?
- 4) How do the books compare to the films? Explain.
- 5) Which is your favourite character? Explain.
- 6) What is the best Harry Potter moment?
- 7) Would you liked to have gone to school in Hogwarts? Explain.
- 8) Why was Harry Potter so successful?
- 9) Would you like to play a game of Quidditch?
- 10) Will you be visiting the Harry Potter Studio Tour?

### Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you read?
- 2) Have you learnt anything in today's English lesson?
- 3) Are you a Harry Potter fan?
- 4) What do you think of the ticket prices for the Harry Potter Tour?
- 5) Will Warner Bros see more than 5,000 people a day pass through the Harry Potter Studio Tour?
- 6) Will your kids want to visit the Harry Potter Studio Tour?
- 7) Would you liked to have been in the Harry Potter movies? Explain.
- 8) Would you like to meet Harry Potter?
- 9) What is your favourite Harry Potter moment?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

## SPEAKING

Let's discuss! Harry Potter

*Allow 10-15 minutes – As a class / small groups / pairs / 1 to 1*

20 things about the Harry Potter books/movies
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The teacher can moderate the session.

## GAP FILL: READING:

*Put the words into the gaps in the text.*

### The Harry Potter Studio Tour

Hands up who hasn't heard of Harry Potter! I can't believe there is anyone who hasn't heard of him. Just in case you haven't - he is a fictional boy (1)\_\_\_\_\_ created by British (2)\_\_\_\_\_ J.K. Rowling. For those Harry Potter (3)\_\_\_\_\_ that have read the books and seen the movies I have some good news. Now you can visit the Harry Potter movie set where many of the scenes were shot. You can do this by visiting the Leavesden Studios near Watford, Hertfordshire, in the UK, where all eight films were made over the course of a decade. The *Harry Potter Studio Tour* offers fans the opportunity to see behind-the-scenes look at how the (4)\_\_\_\_\_ were made. Visitors will be able to see the (5)\_\_\_\_\_, (6)\_\_\_\_\_ and (7)\_\_\_\_\_ that appeared in the movies. You can wander down the cobbles of Diagon Alley, inspect the table settings in the Great Hall at Hogwarts, gaze at the bookshelves in Dumbledore's office and peer through the windows of number four Privot Drive. Other things to see include Hermione's cloak, Harry's (8)\_\_\_\_\_ and Hagrid's motorcycle.

The (1)\_\_\_\_\_ of the tour is seeing the (2)\_\_\_\_\_ of Hogwarts. Built to 1:24 scale, it was used in the (3)\_\_\_\_\_ shots for the first six films. The attention to detail is (4)\_\_\_\_\_; with 3,000 fibre-optic lights fitted inside and turned on as the night sky darkens. Some of the wonderful (5)\_\_\_\_\_ J.K. Rowling dreamt up are also on display including Dobby the House Elf. Videos explain how the films were made, like the Quidditch (6)\_\_\_\_\_. Some people might think however that the ticket prices are (7)\_\_\_\_\_. The prices are £21 for a child ages 5-15, £28 for an adult, £83 for a family of four. The prices are comparable to the likes of Alton Towers. You'll need three hours to enjoy the Harry Potter (8)\_\_\_\_\_. Visitors can stop off at the gift shop. This could leave you seriously out of pocket as there are mountains of Potter merchandise for you to buy.

*sets*  
*broomstick*  
*wizard*  
*fans*  
*costumes*  
*films*  
*props*  
*author*  
*highlight*  
*incredible*  
*model*  
*expensive*  
*exterior*  
*stunts*  
*creatures*  
*moment*

## GRAMMAR:

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

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Hands up who hasn't heard of Harry Potter! I can't believe (1)\_\_\_ is anyone who hasn't heard of him. (2)\_\_\_ in case you haven't - he is a fictional boy wizard created by British author J.K. Rowling. For (3)\_\_\_ Harry Potter fans (4)\_\_\_ have read the books and seen the movies I have (5)\_\_\_ good news. Now you can visit the Harry Potter movie set where (6)\_\_\_ of the scenes were shot. You can do this by visiting the Leavesden Studios near Watford, Hertfordshire, in the UK, (7)\_\_\_ all eight films were made over the course of a decade. The *Harry Potter Studio Tour* offers fans the opportunity to see behind-the-scenes look at how the films were made. Visitors will be able to see the sets, props and costumes that appeared in the movies. You can wander down the cobbles of Diagon Alley, inspect the table settings in the Great Hall at Hogwarts, gaze at the bookshelves in Dumbledore's office and peer through the windows of number four Privot Drive. (8)\_\_\_ things to see include Hermione's cloak, Harry's broomstick and Hagrid's motorcycle.

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**where**

**some**

**many**

**there**

**other**

**that**

**those**

**just**

**of**

**as**

**can**

**how**

**you**

**and**

**for**

**the**

## SPELLING TEST

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards, check your answers with your teacher, using the following ratings: **Pass = 12, Good = 15, Very good = 18, Excellent = 20**

1	bookshelves	11	costumes
2	through	12	decade
3	broomstick	13	author
4	motorcycle	14	movies
5	cloak	15	unfortunately
6	wizard	16	highlight
7	exterior	17	fictional
8	cobbles	18	opportunity
9	creatures	19	movies
10	merchandise	20	astride

### LINKS

<http://www.latimes.com/travel/deals/themeparks/la-trb-harry-potter-studio-tour-warner-bros-london-03201231,0,6690712.story>  
<http://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video?p=harry+potter+studio+tour>  
<http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/harry-potter-tour-leavesden-studios-306559>  
<http://news.yahoo.com/magic-harry-potter-studio-tour-opens-near-london-103551937.html>  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-17553397>

### ANSWERS

**GAP FILL:** The Harry Potter Studio Tour: Hands up who hasn't heard of Harry Potter! I can't believe there is anyone who hasn't heard of him. Just in case you haven't - he is a fictional boy **wizard** created by British **author** J.K. Rowling. For those Harry Potter **fans** that have read the books and seen the movies I have some good news. Now you can visit the Harry Potter movie set where many of the scenes were shot. You can do this by visiting the Leavesden Studios near Watford, Hertfordshire, in the UK, where all eight films were made over the course of a decade. The *Harry Potter Studio Tour* offers fans the opportunity to see behind-the-scenes look at how the **films** were made. Visitors will be able to see the **sets, props** and **costumes** that appeared in the movies. You can wander down the cobbles of Diagon Alley, inspect the table settings in the Great Hall at Hogwarts, gaze at the bookshelves in Dumbledore's office and peer through the windows of number four Privot Drive. Other things to see include Hermione's cloak, Harry's **broomstick** and Hagrid's motorcycle.

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