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## 1. Talking About Movie Stars

SHARON: Did you see the new Nicolas Cage movie?

DEREK: Which one?

SHARON: Snake Eyes. I just saw it last night with my friend Sarah.

DEREK: No, I haven't seen it yet. But I saw Con Air. I thought that was good.

SHARON: I think Nicolas Cage is great.

DEREK: Really? Why? He isn't very handsome.

SHARON: No, but he's got *character*. He can act with a lot of *depth*.

DEREK: It's *interesting* you like him so much.

Usually I think women don't like him. They like more handsome



*actors.*

SHARON: That's not always true.

But I like some very handsome  
actors. Like Alec Baldwin.

But I don't like an actor just be-  
cause he is handsome.

DEREK: Do you like Keanu Reeves?

SHARON: No, not at all.

DEREK: Why not?

SHARON: I just think he is a bad person.  
He seems very *arrogant*.

DEREK: Maybe it's the characters he  
plays. Maybe in real life he's a  
good guy.

SHARON: No, I think an actor often plays  
characters that match his real  
*personality*.

They are *naturally* better at  
such characters.

And I can *sense* something a-  
bout Keanu Reeves. I don't like  
it. He seems like a *jerk*.

DEREK: Hmm. Maybe. So who is your

*favorite* then?

SHARON: Nicolas Cage.

DEREK: I used to like Nicolas Cage more than I do now.

He used to play more interesting roles.

SHARON: What do you mean? What movies?

DEREK: Oh, my favorite Nicolas Cage movie was *Wild at Heart*.

He was perfect for that role.

SHARON: I saw *Wild at Heart*. It was *disgusting*. I almost couldn't watch it.

DEREK: It was a kind of movie that they call black *humor*.

SHARON: Yes, I know.

Black humor is humor with a lot of *violence* or *horrible* things in it.

I don't like black humor.

DEREK: What about *Raising Arizona*? Did you see that?



SHARON: No.

DEREK: You must see it.

To me, that is the *classic* Nicolas Cage movie. He is perfect for it.

SHARON: I like his new movies.

DEREK: Well, I know he is more popular since he started doing *action* movies.

But I always think he should be a *comic* actor. That is what he does best.

character ['kærəktə] (n.) 角色, 品格, 特质  
 depth [depθ] (n.) 深度, 深渊  
 interesting ['intristiŋ] (adj.) 有趣的  
 actor ['æktə] (n.) 男演员, 实行者, 行动者  
 arrogant ['ærəgənt] (adj.) 傲慢的, 自大的  
 guy [gai] (n.) 家伙, 奇怪的人  
 personality [pə:sn'æləti] (n.) 人格, 个性  
 naturally ['nætʃərəli] (adv.) 生来, 自然地  
 sense [sens] (v.) 察觉, 感觉  
 jerk [dʒə:k] (n.) 愚笨古怪的人  
 favorite ['feivərit] (adj.) 特别喜爱的  
 disgusting [dis'gʌstiŋ] (adj.) 令人作呕, 讨厌的  
 humor ['hju:mə] (n.) 幽默, 滑稽  
 violence ['vaiələns] (n.) 暴力, 激烈  
 horrible ['hɔrəbl] (adj.) 可怕的, 极丑的  
 Arizona [æri'zəunə] (n.) 亚利桑纳州  
 [美国]  
 classic ['klæsik] (adj.) 经典的, 古典的  
 action ['ækʃən] (n.) 动作  
 comic ['kɒmik] (adj.) 喜剧的, 连环漫画的







SCOTT: So, what would you like to drink?

SYLVIA: I don't know. Do they have tea?

SCOTT: What did you say? Tea?

SYLVIA: Yes. Do they have any *iced* tea?

SCOTT: No, I don't think so. This is a *pub*.

SYLVIA: Sure. A lot of pubs do.

SCOTT: I can't *imagine* that. It sounds strange. Anyway, what would you like as a drink?

SYLVIA: Maybe juice then.

SCOTT: Juice? It's 10:30! How can you drink juice?

SYLVIA: Why not?

SCOTT: But this is a pub. They have beer, or wine, or *liquor* here.

I thought you wanted to have a drink.

SYLVIA: But I don't like *alcohol*. It makes my face turn red.

SCOTT: Your face turns red?

SYLVIA: Yes, it turns all red. So I don't drink alcohol usually.

SCOTT: So what do you usually drink when you go out?

SYLVIA: I drink tea, or juice.

SCOTT: But you are in a pub right now. Almost all women here know how to drink alcohol. You should learn.

SYLVIA: Why do I have to learn? I don't like it.

SCOTT: Because when you go out with people, everybody drinks. And your company will have parties too. If you *refuse* to drink alcohol, people will think you are too *conservative*.



SYLVIA: So you think I need to drink,  
huh?

SCOTT: At least get used to it. You  
should be able to drink two or  
three drinks.

SYLVIA: All right. I will try. What are  
you drinking?

SCOTT: *Gin and tonic.*

SYLVIA: Is it strong?

SCOTT: *Average.* Not too strong.

SYLVIA: I will have one too then. But you  
must *promise* not to laugh at my  
red face.

SCOTT: I promise. I'll go to the bar and  
get two gin and tonics.

laugh at

嘲笑, 忽视

He laughed at me for unknown reasons.

他莫名地嘲笑我。

iced [aist] (*adj.*) 冰镇的

pub [pʌb] (n.) 酒店, 酒吧

imagine ['imædʒɪn] (v.) 想像, 心想

liquor ['likə] (n.) 酒, 烈性酒

alcohol ['ælkəhɒl] (n.) 酒精, 含酒饮料

refuse [ri'fju:z] (v.) 拒绝, 谢绝

conservative [kən'sə:vətɪv] (*adj.*) 保守的, 有节制的

qin [dʒin] (n.) 杜松子酒

tonic ['tɒnik] (n.) (加香料的)苏打水

average ['ævərɪdʒ] (*adj.*) 一般的, 普通的

promise ['prɒmɪs] (v.) 允诺, 答应, 预示



CALVIN: So, are you pretty well *settled* in your new place?

TOM: I still have to buy a washing *ma-*  
*chine* and a *dryer*. But *otherwise*  
I've pretty much *finished* moving.

CALVIN: Does your building have cable  
TV?

TOM: I'm not sure. I didn't *check* yet.

CALVIN: Huh? How can you move into a  
building if you don't check?  
You don't want to live some-  
where where it's hard to get ca-  
ble.

TOM: Why? I'm not a big TV fan. I  
watch very little.

CALVIN: Well, I agree. *Regular* TV is  
*lousy*. I don't watch it *either*.

But cable TV is excellent.  
Didn't you have it at your old  
place?

TOM: My girlfriend had it *hooked* up for  
about three months.

But I *rarely* watched it. I was too  
busy.

CALVIN: What do you do for news?

TOM: I read the newspaper. That's much  
better than cable TV.

CALVIN: I don't agree. I think it's better  
in some ways.

But *CNN* is great. With CNN,  
you have fast news *coverage*,  
and *images* too.

And you can watch it while  
you're eating breakfast.

TOM: Yes, I've watched CNN before.  
But I still like the newspaper bet-  
ter.

CALVIN: Larry King Live is my favorite  
talk show.

I think shows like his are excel-



lent ways to hear different *opinions* about world *events*.

TOM: So maybe I will get cable hooked up. Just to watch CNN, I mean.

CALVIN: But that's not all you have with cable.

There are a lot of things you can get. Do you like *MTV*?

TOM: No, not at all. I don't care about that.

I like Beavis and Butthead. They're hilarious.

But I never watch music *videos*. They dry up you *brain*.

CALVIN: How about the *Discovery channel*?

TOM: Yes, I forgot about Discovery.

I have to agree that's an excellent channel.

And maybe, for the first time in history, it's a channel that does some good in the world.

CALVIN: What do you mean?

TOM: I mean, usually TV channels are only good for *advertising products*. In other words, they are good for making money.

But the Discovery channel does a lot to show people how the *environment* is being *destroyed*.

CALVIN: Yes, it does. I agree.

TOM: I think the Discovery channel makes people think about *protecting* the environment.

That is a great *service* to the future of the world.

CALVIN: So you see: cable TV can be important.

TOM: Yes, I suppose.





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