

## Tóm lược (Summary)

Anna and Pete start their new show. They do not agree about the circus. Are the performers artists or athletes? Do they perform or compete? Find out in the first "He Said - She Said" show.

Anna và Pete bắt đầu một chương trình mới. Họ có bất đồng về môn xiếc. Liệu những diễn viên xiếc là nghệ sĩ hay là vận động viên? Liệu họ đang biểu diễn hay đang thi đấu với nhau? Cùng tìm câu trả lời trong chương trình "He Said - She Said" nhé!

## Hội thoại (Conversation)

Anna: Hello, I'm Anna ...

Pete: ... and I'm Pete. Welcome to "He Said,

Anna: ... She Said"!

Pete: Because there are always two **sides** ...

Anna: to every story!

Anna: Today's show is about **Circus** Arts!

Pete: Circus? That's not an art **form**.

Anna: Yes, it is.

Pete: No, it isn't.

Anna: Yes, it is.

Pete: No, it isn't.

Anna: Yes, it is!

Pete: No, it isn't.

Anna: Yes, it is!

Pete: No, it isn't.

Anna: Yes, it is!

Professor Bot: Oh dear. Anna and Pete do not agree about Circus Arts. But that's okay. Today's lesson is about agreeing and disagreeing. Let's listen to how Anna and Pete disagree or agree. Let's hope these two can agree on something.

Anna: Today, let's **run away with** the circus!

Recently, I went to a circus festival. There was a huge circus tent. And many different circus performers. It was a celebration of circus arts!

Pete: That looks fun, Anna. But I don't think circus performers are artists. I think they're **athletes** with interesting skills ... and costumes.

Anna: Hmm, that is a very interesting point of view, Pete. And I completely disagree.

Pete: Anna, **Michelangelo** was an artist. **Rembrandt** was an artist. People who swing from **ropes** are not artists. I know it's not easy to swing from a **bar** and catch someone by the hands. You have to be very **athletic** to do that.

Anna: That's a good point, Pete. They *are* athletic. But they are called **trapeze** artists. Trapeze ... ARTISTS.

Pete: I hear what you're saying, Anna. I do. But where is the art? Look at these guys. They're jugglers.

Anna: Yes, they are skilled in the *art* of juggling.

Pete: They have a special skill. But are they artists?

Anna: Yes!

Pete: No!

Pete: They're just throwing things **back and forth**.

Anna: Kind of like you and me, Pete. We're going back and forth on this issue.

Pete: I don't think we'll ever agree on this one.

Anna: No, but we can agree that these young people are amazing.

Pete: Okay, yeah. We can agree on that. But, still, they are very athletic – flipping and throwing each other around.

Anna: Yes, I agree with you on that point.

Professor. Bot: They did it! They agreed!! Anna says she agrees that the performers are athletic. "That's a good point, Pete. They *are* athletic. I agree with you on that point. " Now look for other ways they agree.

Pete: Anna? Anna!!

Anna: Sorry! Sorry! But he's an artist too. He is telling a story with his sticks and his costume.

Pete: What story? What costume?

Anna: I see your point, Pete. I really do. But circus performers do more than physical tricks. Look! Look at these amazing performers!

Pete: I will **admit** -- I like *their* costumes.

Anna: You know, Pete. Let's let the performers speak for themselves.

Anna: Kate and Piper tell stories while **hanging** upside down on a **ring**!

Pete: Was it hard to interview them upside down?

Anna: I interviewed them **right side up**, Pete. Kate says circus performing may be athletic but it's not **competitive**. With most sports, you compete.

Kate: It's an art form because like, other sports are competing. This is simply performing and having fun.

Pete: Okay, Kate made a really good point. In athletics, there is a lot of competition. But still ...

Anna: Here's Piper, Pete. Please pay attention, Pete.

Pete: But, I -

Anna: Shh.

Piper: Well, when you're up in the air doing circus you have to perform. And so, we learn to **embody** characters, and to move fluidly and **gracefully** ... in artistic ways.

Anna: And that ...is why they are artists!

Pete: You're right, Anna. Oh, you're right. It's just so beautiful.

Anna: I know. I know, Pete.

Professor Bot: Good job you two! I'm so glad that Anna and Pete finally agree! Pete said, " You're right, Anna." I agree, too. Circus arts are beautiful. Remember the website!

## Từ ngữ mới (New Words)

**admit** - *v.* to say usually in an unwilling way that you accept or do not deny the truth or existence of (something)

**athlete** - *n.* a person who is trained in or good at sports, games, or exercises that require physical skill and strength

**athletic** - *adj.* strong and muscular

**back and forth** - *adv.* toward the back and then toward the front or backward and forward

**bar** - *n.* a straight piece of metal or wood that is used as a tool

**circus** - *n.* a traveling show that is often performed in a tent and that typically includes trained animals, clowns, and acrobats

**competitive** - *adj.* of or relating to a situation in which people or groups are trying to win a contest or be more successful than others

**embody** - *v.* to be a symbol or example of (something)

**form** - *n.* a type or kind of something

**graceful** - *adj.* moving in a smooth and attractive way

**hang** - *v.* to hold one's body in the air

**Michelangelo** - *n.* Michelangelo di Lodovico Buonarroti Simoni was an Italian Renaissance painter, sculptor, architect, poet, and engineer.

Along with Leonardo da Vinci, he is often called a "Renaissance man" which means that he had great talent in many areas.

**Rembrandt** - *n.* Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn was a famous Dutch painter and artist. He is generally considered one of the greatest painters and printmakers in European art history, and the most important in Dutch history.

**right side up** - *adv.* with the top of something, or the head of a person, facing upward

**ring** - *n.* something that is shaped like a circle

**rope** - *n.* a strong, thick string that is made by twisting many thin strings or fibers together

**run away with** - *phrasal verb.* to secretly leave a place with a person or a group

**side** - *n.* one of two or more opinions, positions, etc., that disagree with each other

**trapeze** - *n.* a short bar that is hung high above the ground by two ropes and that is held by circus performers who perform athletic tricks on it

**twirl** - *v.* to turn or spin around and around

## Sách lược học tập (Learning Strategy)

The learning strategy for this lesson is *Apply a rule*. When you use English, you often apply rules you have learned. If you are not sure about how to say something in English, you can look for a rule that will help you.

In this lesson, Anna and Pete are talking about circus performers. Are they artists or athletes? Anna thinks of this rule: 'athletes compete in sports.' The performer Kate says circus performing may be athletic but it's not competitive. Anna helps Pete to understand that circus performers are artists because, as Piper says, they move "in artistic ways."

How about you? How do you apply rules while you are speaking English? Can you think of an example of a rule that you applied recently? Write to us in the Comments section or [send us an email](#).