19 . Film and book reviews

1. The suspense builds up

A pleasant excitement as to a decision or outcome

 As the suspense builds up, Larry sets off to go to Alaska in search of his father.

2. A chain / series of events

Multiple events that follow one another

The main character sets off an amazing chain of events.

3. Startling originality

Surprising creativity

• It's an incredibly gripping film and its direction shows startling originality .

4. Bold experiment

A risky experiment

• That was a bold experiment to cast Jenni Adams as a woman twice her age .

5. A consummate professional

(formal) complete professional

• Jenni is an accomplished actor and consummate professional.

6. Star -studded cast

To stud is to decorate or mark conspicuously at intervals

The star - studded cast couldn't save the movie from a dismal failure and low reviews.

7. To give dazzling display of..

e.g. "The sky was studded with stars."

To dazzle is

- 1. to lose vision from looking at something super bright
- 2. to shine brilliantly
- 3. to arouse admiration by an impressive display
 - The trio of actors gave a dazzling display of their talents .

8. To give glowing reviews

Very positive reviews

 The New York Times gave the show glowing reviews and not without good reason.

9. To cast [actor] in the role of [character]

- To cast an actor as
- Whoever decided to cast Jenni Adams in the role of the disappearing grandma must have been out of their mind .

10. To bear the suspense

To take easy the suspense in movies

• Screech of the Vampire is highly recommended if you can bear the suspense .

11. An unmitigated disaster

A total disaster

• The movie turned out to be an unmitigated disaster, strongly influenced by the very worst kind of Hollywood sentimentality.

12. All - star cast

A cast that mostly consists of famous actors

Despite of the all-star cast, the movie didn't really hold my attention.

13. A lasting impression on ..

A permanent impression

• The book, *The Dark Tower*, which I first read in my 20s, made a lasting impression on me.

14 . To fire someone's imagination

To evoke someone's imagination

That book fired my imagination more than any other book has ever done.

15. To create / evoke the atmosphere of ..

To make or bring about the atmosphere of ...

- However, the movie simply failed to create the atmosphere of New York in the 1930s.
- The movie evokes the atmosphere of the Lovecraftian universe of madness.

16. To awaken someone's interest in ...

To arouse someone's interest

• This story awakened my interest in the Mormons and their faith .

17 . A considerable reputation / well - deserved reputation

NOT high reputation

- Mark Gong has a considerable reputation as a brilliant producer.
- The restaurant for the mind has a well deserved reputation as the best dinning spot in Manhattan .