



DiCaprio Celebrates Best Actor Oscar Win

Discussion > Advanced 8



Exercise 1 – Vocabulary

visceral	Resulting from strong feelings rather than careful thought.
[adjective]	<i>Ex: My sister has a visceral fear of darkness.</i>

frontiersman	A man living on the frontier especially one who lived in the western US during the 19th century.
[noun]	<i>Ex: His great-great-grandfather was a frontiersman who went to North Dakota looking for gold.</i>

integral	Being an essential part of something.
[adjective]	<i>Ex: He's an integral part of the team and we can't do without him.</i>

dreamscape	An imaginary, surrealistic, or dreamlike scene or setting, as in a film.
[noun]	<i>Ex: The view of the ocean was a dreamscape I will never forget.</i>

revenant	Someone who has returned; someone who returns to life after being dead.
[noun]	<i>Ex: The dead son becomes a ghostly revenant.</i>



Exercise 2 – Reading

Read the text aloud with your tutor and discuss the key points.

DiCaprio Celebrates Best Actor Oscar Win

It's no surprise that one of the main winners of Oscar night was Leonardo DiCaprio, who took home the award for Best Actor in a Leading Role.

However, his visceral performance as Hugh Glass, a critically injured 1820s frontiersman fighting for survival in the American wilderness is integral to Oscar winning director Alejandro Inarritu's film "The Revenant", and the grand cinematography by Oscar winner Emmanuel Lubezki.

Throughout the film, Leonardo DiCaprio delivers very few words. His character is so heavily wounded he cannot utter many words and later when he starts recovering he is alone in the wilderness. His visions and hallucinations are the only window to his feelings and memories of his love for his dead son and Indian wife.



“Because there [are] very few words he delivers, he has to make you feel cold, sadness, rage, and many complex emotions simultaneously with his body language and only his eyes. That is a very difficult task,” director Inarritu said, describing DiCaprio’s tour de force performance.

Leonardo DiCaprio says his Oscar winning interpretation would not have been possible without Inarritu’s filmmaking vision which takes us into the beautiful West but also into the dreamscape of Glass’s subconscious mind.

“More than anything, what Alejandro wanted to do was to create poetry in that story; what it means to have all the chips stacked against you and this triumph of the human spirit,” DiCaprio said.



Exercise 3 – Discussion

Discuss the following questions with your tutor.

1. What award did Leonardo DiCaprio receive?
2. Did you see “The Revenant”? If so, did you like it? If not, do you plan on seeing it?
3. Did you see any of DiCaprio’s other movies? Why or why not?
4. Are these kinds of awards important for someone else other than the actors and filmmakers?
5. Why do people have a strong desire to win awards and for their work to be recognized?
6. What is the state of cinematography in your country?
7. What do you think is the “secret recipe” for an Oscar-winning movie?
8. If you could make a movie, what would it be about? Please explain your answer.