

6. He usually wears a red costume with the letter 'S' on it.

7. When he grew older, he lost some of his powers.

8. Green-coloured things are dangerous for him.

c) Check your memory. Answer the question: What supernatural abilities does Superman have?

 **d) Listen again and check yourselves.**

4. What supernatural abilities would you like to have? Why?

LESSON 5. Supernatural abilities

Communicative area: reading and listening for detail

Active vocabulary: disability, disabled

1. How do you think the photos are connected?



2. a) Read the first part of a short biography. What made Christopher Reeve special?

Superman: Before and After

Before:

Christopher Reeve – an American actor, film director, producer, author and activist – was born in September, 1952 in New York. One of Reeve's great-grandfathers was a veteran of World War I and the first national commander of the American Legion. One of his great-great-great-grandfathers was a *Mayflower* passenger, another one – a younger brother of King Henry V of England. Reeve's father could speak Russian. Though Reeve was born into a rich family, he always spent summers working at the docks. At school he was a brilliant student, a great sportsman and showed a lot of talent playing in the theatre. He was very sporty: he could play soccer, baseball, tennis and hockey very well. He could speak very good French. When studying to become an actor, he started a close friendship with Robin Williams.

His first Superman film was a huge success and he became a star.

Reeve lived like Superman. He had a pilot's license and flew by himself across the Atlantic twice. He took part in making a television documentary on dinosaurs because he had been interested in them since he was a child. He built a sailboat, *The Sea Angel*, and went sailing a lot. In 1987 he flew to Chile to help save the lives of 77 Chilean actors from the dictator Pinochet. When he was very popular, a group of children saw him in a park. They threw their Frisbee over a fence and asked him to fly after it. He said he couldn't fly because his Superman clothes were in the washer, so he just brought the Frisbee back without flying. The children were happy.

 **b) Listen to the second part of his biography called 'After'. Answer the questions.**

1. How did Christopher Reeve become disabled?
2. How did he live with his disability?

disability – a physical or mental condition that makes it difficult for someone to use part of their body or to learn

c) Which facts from Christopher Reeve's life surprised you most? Why do you think his biography is called *Superman: Before and After*?

3. a) Read what Superman said. Explain the meaning of the sayings. Compare your ideas with those of your classmates.

Either you decide to stay in the shallow* end of the swimming-pool or you go out in the ocean.

What makes Superman a hero is not that he has power, but that he can use the power wisely**.

b) Read what was said about Superman. Discuss the questions that follow.

Superman is and has always been a hero who stands for what we believe is the best within us, for what we all feel we would like to be able to stand for, when standing is hardest. *J. Michael Straczynski*

I grew up watching Superman as a child. When I first learned to dive into a swimming-pool, I wasn't diving, I was flying like Superman. *Tom Hiddleston*

***shallow** – мелкий

****wisely** – мудро

When I was nine, I had this girlfriend and we used to have running races in the park. I wanted to be like Superman and fly in and rescue her. *Orlando Bloom*

My Dad was Superman to me and in my mind he always will be. *Artie Lange*

Questions:

- Have you ever wanted to be like Superman?
- Who is a hero for the people of your country?
- What films were you watching when you were growing up?
- What books were you reading when you were growing up?
- Who is Superman to you?
- Do you think people with disabilities feel comfortable in today's world?
- What can be done to make their life more convenient?
- Is the ability to speak English important?

LESSON 6.

My English class

Communicative area: speaking about English classes

Active vocabulary: aloud, attend, composition, dictionary, project, translate

Grammar revision: *have to* for necessity, *must* for rules, *should* for advice

1. Interview your partner.

- When did you start learning English?
- When were you able to say the English alphabet / to read / to write?