

playing in *Wolverine*; 4) likes all the films he has acted in; 5) thinks that to be a success you must work a lot; 6) is fond of high jumping now.


**3.** Imagine you are a newspaper reporter, summarise all the information about Hugh Jackman and write a newspaper article about him. Think of a headline for the article.

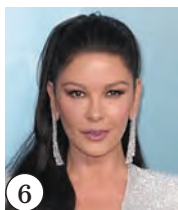
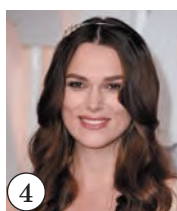
**4a.** Imagine you are interviewing a famous film star. Work in groups and make a list of questions you would ask him / her. What answers do you think he / she would give? Use the interview from ex. 2a and 2b as an example.

**4b.** Act out the interview.

**4c.**  Write 8–10 questions you would like to ask a celebrity.

## Lesson 5. Pride and prejudice, sense and sensibility

**1.**  Match the photos with the names. What country do these actors and actresses come from? Listen and check.



Benedict Cumberbatch  
Emma Watson  
Anthony Hopkins  
Robert Pattinson

Orlando Bloom  
Sean Connery  
Keira Knightley  
Catherine Zeta-Jones

**2a.** Kate Winslet and Colin Firth are great British celebrities who have won the Best Actress and the Best Actor Oscars. Have you seen any films starring them?

**2b.**    **Work in pairs.**

**Student A:**

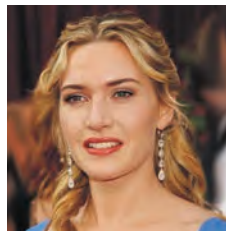
- 1) Read the biography of Kate Winslet and be ready to answer your partner's questions about her.
- 2) Get a card about Colin Firth and do the task.

**Student B:**

- 1) Read the biography of Colin Firth and be ready to answer the questions about him.
- 2) Get a card about Kate Winslet and do the task.

### Kate Winslet

**K**ate Winslet was born on 5 October 1975, in Reading, England, in a family of actors. She started acting at the age of seven. The beginning of her career goes back to 1995 when she appeared in her first film, *Heavenly Creatures*. Winslet attracted more attention with her next role in Ang Lee's film adaptation of Jane Austen's novel, *Sense and Sensibility* (1995). As the charming Marianne Dashwood – the “sensibility” of the film – Winslet earned an Academy Award nomination for Best Supporting Actress.



In 1997, she got the main role in the record-breaking blockbuster *Titanic*, which pushed her to international stardom. The film won numerous Academy Awards, including Best Picture and Best Director, and scored Winslet her second Academy Award nomination for acting, this time for Best Actress. In 2001, Winslet gave her voice to the animated British film, *A Christmas Carol*. A song from the film, “What If,” performed by Winslet became a top ten single in Britain. Her brilliant acting in the films *Iris* (2001), *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* (2004) and *Little Children* (2006) brought her new Academy Award nominations. She won the Best Actress Oscar for *The Reader* in 2008.

Kate Winslet has starred in dozens of films since then. Her most famous projects of the last decade are the 2014 thriller *Divergent* and its 2015 sequel, *Insurgent*, *The Mountain Between Us* (2017), an adventure-survival film, and Woody Allen's *Wonder Wheel*. For her performance of Joanna Hoffman in *Steve Jobs* (2015), she received her seventh Academy Award nomination and the European Golden Globe Award.

The actress was awarded Commander of the Order of the British Empire in the 2012 Queen's Birthday Honours List for her achievements in film and television. In 2017, Winslet teamed with Leonardo DiCaprio's environmental foundation and took part in the campaign against global warming. Off camera, Winslet is known for her great sense of humour and care of the family. She has been married three times and has three children, two sons and a daughter.

## Colin Firth

Colin Firth was born on 10 September 1960, in Grayshott, Hampshire, England. His parents were working as teachers in Nigeria, Africa. Colin and his family lived in Nigeria until he was 4 years old, and then settled in England. At the age of 18, he moved to London, where he joined the National Youth Theatre. In 1979 he decided to go to an acting school at the London Drama Centre in order to improve his acting skill. Studying six days a week for three years, Firth cut his teeth in a variety of plays, including *King Lear* and *Hamlet*.



Colin Firth made his film debut ['derbjʊ:] in *Another Country* in 1984, but Firth's success came in 1995, when he was cast as Mr Darcy in the BBC romance *Pride and Prejudice*. Firth's next role was in the Academy Award-winning film *The English Patient* (1996). In 1998, he played brilliantly in another Oscar-winning blockbuster, *Shakespeare in Love*. With his appearance in 2001's *Bridget Jones' Diary*, Firth played his Mr Darcy role in a more contemporary<sup>1</sup> setting.

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<sup>1</sup> **contemporary** [kən'temp(ə)r(ə)ri] – modern, relating to the present time

The actor continued to appear in such films as *Love Actually* (2003), *Mamma Mia!* (2008) and *A Christmas Carol* (2009). In 2009, Firth was recognised with Oscar and Golden Globe nominations for starring in *A Single Man*. For his great performance in *The King's Speech*, Firth won the Best Actor Oscar at the 2011 Academy Awards. His role list ranges from a romantic man to a country's leader.

Colin Firth is also famous for his brilliant acting in the dramas *The Railway Man* (2013), *Before I Go to Sleep* (2014) and *Genius* (2016) in which he co-starred with a famous Australian actress Nicole Kidman. In 2014, he surprised his fans as a secret agent in the action spy comedy *Kingsman: The Secret Service*. The success of the film was enormous and, in 2017, its sequel *Kingsman: The Golden Circle* was released. In 2019, Firth played the role of a military leader in the famous World War I drama *1917* which won three Oscar awards.

Firth is known as a reserved and shy person. However, he is very sociable and he enjoys working with others on group projects or community activities. Colin is married to an Italian producer and director and has three sons.

**2c.** Read the biographies again and find out what these two celebrities have in common (at least 5 things).

**3.**  Role-play an interview with one of the British actors.

**4a.** Work in small groups. Which films mentioned in the texts have you seen? What are your impressions? Which ones would you recommend watching? Why?

**4b.**  Write which film you recommend watching and explain why you advise seeing this film.

## Lesson 6. Cinema celebrities

**1a.** The actor in the photo is Johnny Depp. What do you know about him? In what films did he act? Do you like his manner of acting?

