



LESSON 17. A FANTASTIC MIND



“After flying just once over Mexico city, this artist drew the entire cityscape from memory.”

What are the words that you can use to describe him?

Vocabulary Warm Up



TALENT

➔ **Talent** is a natural ability to be good at something, especially without being taught.

COMPETENCE

➔ **Competence** is the ability to do something successfully or efficiently.

INNATE

➔ **Innate** means existing in, belonging to, or determined by factors present in an individual from birth.

TRAINING

➔ **Training** is the process of learning the skills you need to do a particular job or activity.

Vocabulary Exercise

Match the phrases and words to their correct meaning.

1. The state of things as they actually exist
2. marked by extraordinarily great size, number, or degree
3. to talk about or mention (something that one thinks is important)
4. things that cannot be explained by science
5. the workroom of an artist, as a painter or sculptor
6. used to introduce an example or series of examples
7. a series of slightly different drawings of people, animals, and objects that make them appear to move
8. to spend time producing or improving something
9. a story or type of literature that describes situations that are very different from real life, usually involving magic
10. to use something as the thing from which something else is developed

work on
animated
be based on
studio
enormous
supernatural
such as
point out
fantasy
reality

A Fantastic Mind

Hayao Miyazaki was born in Tokyo on January 5, 1941. As a boy, he liked to read and draw **cartoons**. After graduating from university in 1963, Miyazaki joined the Toei Animation Company. At Toei, he worked on many **animated** movies, like the famous *Puss in Boots*. In 1984, he made *Nausicaa of the Valley of Wind*, which **was based on** a comic book he wrote. Because this movie was so successful, Miyazaki was able to start his own animation company, **Studio Ghibli**.

One of Miyazaki's most loved movies is *My Neighbour Totoro*, made in 1987. It is a children's movie, but many adults like it, too. The movie is about two sisters who become friends with an **enormous, supernatural** animal named Totoro. It is a very warm-hearted story, with many fantastic characters **such as** *Cat Bus*, a cat that is also a bus. Miyazaki's 2001 movie, *Spirited Away*, was even more popular than *My Neighbour Totoro*. In fact, it made more money than any other movie in Japanese history.

All of Miyazaki's movies have strange but **charming** people and **creatures**. Many of his stories happen in worlds that are different from ours. However, they still show his ideas about real life. He often **points out** how humans hurt the natural world. He thinks people should change how they live. Miyazaki's movies combine **fantasy** and **reality** in an original way. This may be why so many people like his movies.

1. When was Hayao Miyazaki born?
2. What did he do after graduating?
3. What things did he work on?
4. *Where was "Nausicaa of the Valley of Wind" based on?*
5. What was Miyazaki's movie which was loved the most by various ages of people?
6. What was the movie about?
7. Describe the main characters.
8. Why are Miyazaki's movies loved by many people?
9. Describe Miyazaki's movies' setting.

POST COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

- a. What talents and skills do you possess?**
- b. How do you showcase it to people?**
- c. Would you like to be one of a kind? Why or Why not?**

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Adjective Order

Adjectives are words that describe or modify other words, making your writing and speaking much more specific, and a whole lot more interesting.

When more than one adjective comes before a noun, the adjectives are normally in a particular order.



Adjective Order Example

Opinion	Size, Length, Height	Physical Quality	Age	Shape	Color	Origin	Material	Purpose	Noun
successful			former			British			footballer
beautiful					blonde	Swedish			TV presenter
	huge				black				stretch limousine
talented		well-built	young						musician
	big			cone-shaped	green and yellow				hat

- David Beckham is a **successful, former British** footballer.
- Ulrika is a **beautiful, blonde, Swedish** TV presenter.
- The pop star arrived in a **huge, black** stretch limousine.
- My friend is a **talented, well-built, young** musician.
- The clown was wearing a **big, cone-shaped, green and yellow** hat.

Adjective Order Exercise



Arrange the adjectives in the parenthesis in their correct order.

1. There are **(good/reasons/many)** to want to explore your talents but it's going to take **(little/work/a)**.
2. Every individual in this world has **(talent/some /hidden/unique)**.
3. He's **(brilliant/teacher/middle-aged/a /history)** and **(American/eminant/an/writer)**.
4. **(love/first/Ramsay's)** was soccer, and he set his sights on **(sports/a/career/professional)**.
5. Luciano Pavaroti is one of **(world's/singers/greatest/the/classical)** .
6. Not many people know that before he became a singer, he was **(player/outstanding/football/an)**.
7. Paul Newman was **(car/driver/a/racing)**.
8. Kobe Bean Bryant was **(basketball/an/professional/American/player)**.
9. Madonna is **(recording/best-selling/the/female /artist in the world)**
10. Laure Prouvost is **(art/an/genius/installation)**.
11. **(sculptures /unique/Her)** and installations made her a recipient of **(recognitions/prestigious/two)**.
12. Georgia Brown is Guinness World Record holder for hitting the highest note and for having **(vocal/ greatest/range/the)** covering 8 octaves.
13. Ada Lovelace certainly needs to be recognized in the field being the **(female/first/programmer)**.

Complete the Dialogue



knack	impressed	judge for yourself	promising
first-rate	dazzled	do it in her sleep	head and shoulders above
dexterity	mediocre	flair	comes close to
			keeping an eye on

Kathy: Thanks for inviting me to see your team. Who's your best player?

Brad: That would be Sarah. She's a natural. No one _____ her speed and _____. She has good instincts and a _____ for getting out of difficult situations.

Kathy: She sounds _____. Anyone else I should be _____?

Brad: Mollie is a good player, too. In terms of scoring points, she can almost _____. She's also very _____ being a leader to the other players, and she has a _____ for getting along with even the most difficult teammates.

Kathy: As you know, we recruit only _____ players for the national team, and this year, we hope to be _____ any of the other teams. The days of making do with _____ players are over.

Brad: I understand that. We have a game this Saturday. Why don't you come out and _____? I think you'll be _____ with the talent you see.

Kathy: I'm sure I will. I'll be here on Saturday ready to be _____.

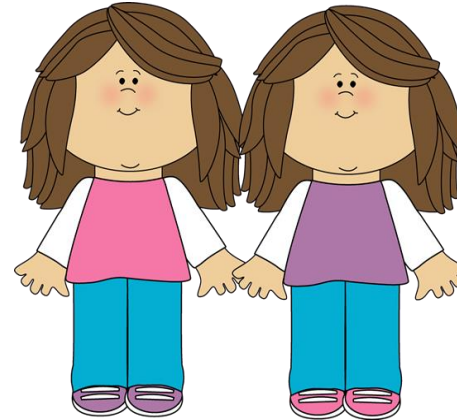
Useful Expressions



If someone or something is **head and shoulders above** other people or things, he, she, or it is a lot better than them



If you say that something or someone is **first-rate**, you mean that they are extremely good and of the highest quality.



Come close to means to be similar to some one or something else, often in a particular way.



Do something in your sleep means to be able to do something so easily that you do not need to think about it, especially because you have done it so many times before

Use the idioms in your own sentence.

1. What are the things that you are good at?
2. How can we acquire skills?
3. What are the talents you have that you are proud of?
4. How important are those talents for you?
5. What talent/skill do you have that you want to teach to others?
Why?
6. Did someone help you to acquire the talents that you have now?
7. Who is that person? How will you describe that person?
8. How important do you think are talents and skills in becoming successful?
9. Can we survive without our talents and skills? Why or Why not?



The End