Scared Stiff – Student Handout

Being a bit of **a scaredy-cat** I’m not really into horror films. But every now and then I like to sit down and watch one with my girlfriend. I’m not very **squeamish** so I don’t really find **gory** films very frightening but anything to do with eyes **gives me the heebie-jeebies**, so I find any scenes where people get the eyes cut or poked out really **unsettling**.

The films that really **send shivers down my spine** are psychological horror films, for me they’re far scarier than gory films. Maybe ones where some people are exploring a **spooky** house and there’s some **creepy** music playing, they really **put me on edge** because you don’t know when something is going to jump out and **scare you half to death**. Sometimes the scariest thing is when we’re watching a horror film and the house phone suddenly rings, or the cat makes a sound and we **jump out of our skins** with fright.

My girlfriend is slightly different to me. She’s **petrified of** spiders and anything that looks like a spider but they don’t really bother me. Once we watched a film about giant alien bugs and we had to switch it off because she was **shaking like a leaf!**

*First listen, answer the questions:*

1. What’s his opinion of gory films?
2. What types of gory scenes make him uncomfortable?
3. What types of horror films scare him the most?
4. What sometimes happens while they are watching a horror film?
5. What’s his girlfriend scared of?

*Second listen, write down different expressions about fear. Look at the expressions in the box, work with a partner to write definitions.*

|  |
| --- |
| 1. Scaredy-cat 2. Squeamish 3. Gory 4. Gives me the heebie-jeebies 5. Unsettling 6. Sends shivers down my spine 7. Spooky 8. Creepy 9. Put me on edge 10. Scare you half to death 11. Jump out of your skin 12. Petrified of 13. Shake like a leaf |

*Look at the expressions and answer the following questions:*

1. Is the meaning obvious from the words?
2. Which ones exist in your own language?
3. Which one is your favourite?
4. Which one will be the easiest/most difficult to remember? Why?

*Can you remember the expressions? Put them back into the text*

Being a bit of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** I’m not really into horror films. But every now and then I like to sit down and watch one with my girlfriend. I’m not very **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** so I don’t really find **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** films very frightening but anything to do with eyes **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** so I find any scenes where people get the eyes cut or poked out really **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

The films that really **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** are psychological horror films, for me they’re far scarier than gory films. Maybe ones where some people are exploring a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** house and there’s some **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** music playing, they really **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** because you don’t know when something is going to jump out and **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. Sometimes the scariest thing is when we’re watching a horror film and the house phone suddenly rings, or the cat makes a sound and we **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** with fright.

My girlfriend is slightly different to me. She’s **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** spiders and anything that looks like a spider but they don’t really bother me. Once we watch a film about giant alien bugs and we had to switch it off because she was **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!**

# Discussion

*Discuss the following questions with your partner using the expressions and the language in the box below.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Showing interest** | **Personalising** |
| Uh-huh.  That’s interesting/weird.  Oh, I see.  Right.  Totally/absolutely.  I see what you mean.  I’m exactly the same.  Uh-uh, not me.  No way!  You’re joking | For me personally,  Speaking personally,  From my point of view,  When it comes to (scary movies), I think…  Speaking of (scary movies), in my opinion…  I find (gory movies) really (terrifying)  (psychological horror movies) are much/far scarier than (gory movies) |

1. Are you a scaredy-cat?
2. Are you squeamish? Do gory movies give you the heebie-jeebies?
3. What type of movies put you on edge?
4. What are you petrified of?
5. Can you think of a scene in a film that made you jump out of your skin?
6. What type of scenes/monsters send shivers down your spine?
7. Which films left you shaking like a leaf?
8. What scares you more, a spooky place or creepy music?
9. What situations are unsettling in real life?
10. Has a friend or family member ever made you jump out of your skin or scared you half to death?