

# Fascinating Facts about Hollywood

In 1910 a film company, looking for a new location for a film, found a little village called Hollywood, near Los Angeles. The people there were very friendly, so the company made a film there. It was about Mexicans in California in the 1800s. That film was called *In Old California* and it was the first ever Hollywood movie.



The company made several more films before returning to New York. Before long other film-makers went there too and Hollywood soon became the movie capital of the world.

The Hollywood sign is world famous. However, the original sign, made in 1923, said 'HOLLYWOODLAND' and it had nothing to do with the film industry. It was an advertisement for some



new houses in the hills above Hollywood. In 1949, they built a new sign and it became 'HOLLYWOOD' for the first time. The sign we see today dates from 1978. It's made of steel and the letters are 14 m high and 11 m wide. Every year many young Americans run away from home and go to Hollywood because they want to become film stars.



One of the first Hollywood film stars was the British actor, Charlie Chaplin (1889–1977). Chaplin was brilliant at silent comedy and his character is still famous all over the world. By 1919 Chaplin was rich, and he started the United Artists studios with some other famous Hollywood stars. He lived in the USA for many years, but the government there didn't like his political opinions. In 1952 he visited London, and the Americans did not allow him to return to the USA. Chaplin lived in Switzerland until he died, but he returned to the USA once in 1972, when he received a special Oscar for his life's work. This was Hollywood's way of saying sorry to one of its greatest stars.

## Comprehension:

**1. Read the text and decide if these statements are true or false? Justify. 4pts**

- The early film makers didn't like the people of Hollywood.  
.....  
.....
- The first Hollywood film was called *Mexicans in California*.  
.....  
.....
- Lots of young Americans want to be film stars  
.....  
.....
- Chaplin never went back to America after 1952.  
.....  
.....

**2. Match the years with the events: 2pts**

- |        |                                       |
|--------|---------------------------------------|
| 1-1952 | a-First Hollywood movie filmed.       |
| 2-1910 | b- Charlie Chaplin visited London.    |
| 3-1972 | c- Charlie Chaplin received an Oscar. |
| 4-1978 | d- Hollywood letters made of steel.   |

**Language:**

1. **Complete the sentences with the past simple of the verbs in the box.**

4pts

be      find      make      cry

- He ..... his first film when he..... 12.
- My sister..... when her hamster died.
- Where .....he.....his keys?

2. **Choose the correct quantifier.**

4pts

- How **much / many** milk do you want in your coffee?
- Can I have **a few / a little** olives on my pizza?
- It's ok. Don't hurry up! We've got **lots of / much** time.
- There weren't **many / a little** people at the party.

3. **Find the past simple of these irregular verbs.**

3pts

Infinitive	Past simple
drive	.....
take	.....
sleep	.....
find	.....
make	.....
cut	.....

4. **Correct the mistakes in each sentence.**

3pts

- There aren't much eggs left.  
.....
- Did your sister made pancakes this morning?  
.....
- Where your parents were yesterday evening?  
.....