

In Step 3 you

- read a description of animated films
- study parts of speech

so that you can

- describe a film you know well

1 Share your ideas

Animated films

How many animated films can you think of? Which ones have you seen? Did you enjoy them?

I like animated films, and I've seen a lot.

2 Reading

a Read the magazine article. What's an 'Annie'?

b Reading skills
Using pronouns and possessive adjectives

Find these phrases and sentences in the text, then read the words or sentences before them. What do the underlined words refer to?

- 1 *It = the film 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs'*
- 1 It was made in 1937 ...
- 2 It was released in 1995, ...
- 3 ... it was an incredible success ...
- 4 ... the actions and characters in them ...
- 5 ... he could show a wide variety of emotions.
- 6 ... made \$340 million in its first 25 days ...
- 7 ... even have their own awards.

The world of computer animation

The world's first full-length animated film was *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. It was made in 1937 by Walt Disney. The images for the early cartoon films were drawn and painted by hand.

The first full-length computer-animated film was *Toy Story*. It was released in 1995, and it was an incredible success with both children and adults. Computers have become much more powerful since the 1990s. In today's films, the most advanced technology is used, so the actions and characters in them have become more and more realistic. For example, in the film *Shrek 2*, Shrek's face had 218 different muscles, so that he could show a wide variety of emotions. But it still takes days, weeks or even months to complete a scene, and it took three years to make *Shrek 2*.

Today, animated films are 'big business'. *Shrek 2* made \$340 million in its first 25 days in the USA. Hundreds of artists, computer animators, software developers and engineers are used for each film.



At first, the script isn't recorded by professional actors. The voices are read by the people who are making the film. Later, when the film is nearly finished, famous stars are paid millions of dollars to play the parts of the main characters. Animated films even have their own awards. The 'Best Animated Feature Film' category was introduced in 2002, and the awards are called 'Annie's'!

