

1 The characters seem to speak

2 READING

Read the article about animated films on page 100 of the Student's Book and answer the question in exercise 2 there. Then read the article below about another animated film. Why do you think the studios changed the title of the film?

FROZEN

The Danish author Hans Christian Andersen wrote many famous stories, and one of his best-known works is *The Snow Queen*. Walt Disney thought of making a movie of the story, but never did. Long after Disney's death, the animation studios that bear his name asked Chris Buck to direct a version of *The Snow Queen* called *Frozen*. The movie came out in 2013, and quickly became the most successful animated film ever.

In planning the film, the production team decided to change Andersen's story. They made it about two sisters who are princesses, Elsa and Anna. When Elsa becomes Queen, the sisters have an argument, and Elsa leaves the royal castle. She has special powers and, by mistake, her departure brings eternal winter to the town.

Instead of basing the movie in Andersen's Denmark, the team chose Norway to be the setting. They travelled there to research the film, and the buildings and costumes reflect Norwegian styles.

Frozen uses a combination of computer-generated animation or imagery (CGI) and old-fashioned hand-drawn pictures. The 3D effects are stunning, particularly when Elsa creates her ice palace and when a giant snow monster chases Anna and her friends.

Much of the film takes place in snow, and it was a real challenge to show the characters moving through it. Some of the artists went to Wyoming in the USA to experience what it is like to walk in deep snow. The team also developed a 'random snowflake generator', so the images of snowflakes always look different.

Why did they change the name of the movie? Someone who loved the film suggested that it was because of the frozen relationship between the sisters. 'And also because Anna's frozen heart has to be melted,' he added. Interestingly, in some countries it is still called *The Snow Queen*.

3 AFTER READING

Answer these questions about the *Animated films* article in the Student's Book.

1 Who directed *Fantastic Mr Fox*?

2 What technique did he use to make the film?

3 What is a storyboard?

4 Why does the director have a rehearsal?

5 Why do the characters seem to speak?

6 Why does it take a long time to make an animated film with puppets?

Now answer these questions about the *Frozen* article.

1 Which studios asked Chris Buck to direct a version of *The Snow Queen*?

2 What happens after Elsa leaves the royal castle?

3 Why did the production team go to Norway?

4 Which modern animation technique does the film use?

5 What was difficult for the artists who created *Frozen*?

6 How did they manage to make all the snowflake images look different?

Now look at *Your response* on page 101 of the Student's Book.