

## Killers of the Flower Moon (C1)

### A – Before you start

*Answer the questions with a partner.*

1. What do you know about the history of Native Americans?
2. Can you name any Native American tribes?
3. Why was there often conflict between the tribes and European settlers?
4. How were Native Americans treated by US governments in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries?

### B – Listen and answer

*Read these statements. Then listen (without reading) and write T (true) or F (false).*

1. *Killers of the Flower Moon* is based on real events that took place in 1920.
2. Robert De Niro plays the part of William Hale, Leonardo DiCaprio's uncle in the film.
3. Ernest Burkhart (played by DiCaprio) was married to a Native American woman.
4. When Martin Scorsese talked to the Osage, he was impressed by their philosophy of life.
5. Leo DiCaprio says Scorsese reveals the inhumanity of the film's most sinister characters.
6. Lily Gladstone praises Mollie, the character she plays in the film.
7. Robert De Niro says his character William Hale knew that he was hated by the Osage.
8. Geoffrey Standing Bear says Scorsese has restored trust between his tribe and the outside world.

### C – Read and answer

*Read the article and answer the questions.*

1. What role did William Hale and Ernest Burkhart assign themselves in relation to the Osage?
2. Why had the Osage become wealthy?
3. How did Hale and Burkhart endeavour to get hold of the Osage's money?
4. How do the Osage feel now about what happened a century ago?
5. How does the film differ from the book it's based on?
6. What helped to give Lily Gladstone an insight into the mind of Ernest's wife Mollie?
7. What other instances of injustice does she mention, which took place in that period?
8. What puzzled De Niro about William Hale?
9. What comparison does De Niro draw between Hale and some of today's prominent figures?
10. How did Martin Scorsese involve the Osage in the making of the film?

### D – Learn it! Use it!

*Complete these sentences with words from the glossary. (You may have to adapt the expression in some way; e.g. change the verb tense, or change from singular to plural.)*

1. The riots went on for three nights, during which many shops in the town centre were \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The Smiths haven't got children of their own, but they've got several nieces and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. All my father-in-law thinks of is money. He's such a \_\_\_\_\_ person!
4. Tim was \_\_\_\_\_ to visit Paris because he had read so much about the city.
5. Few people have \_\_\_\_\_ on their beds nowadays. Most prefer duvets.
6. Jenny had her ears \_\_\_\_\_ so that she could wear her grandmother's diamond earrings.

**E – Ready for the C1 ADVANCED English Test? (Reading and Use of English, Part 3)**

*Use the word in brackets to form a word that fits in the space given.*

1. Scorsese told the Osage elders his film would try to be \_\_\_\_\_ (TRUTH) and authentic.
2. He wanted to include many natural details without making the film \_\_\_\_\_ (FUSS).
3. One of the main themes of the film is \_\_\_\_\_ (BETRAY).
4. Leonardo DiCaprio sees the story as a \_\_\_\_\_ (RECKON) with the United States' past.
5. Lily describes her character Mollie as a person with \_\_\_\_\_ (SHAKE) strength.
6. Robert De Niro sees systemic racism as a feeling of \_\_\_\_\_ (ENTITLE).
7. He feels it's important to watch out for what he calls the \_\_\_\_\_ (BANAL) of evil.
8. Some people in the film speak Osage, which is an \_\_\_\_\_ (DANGER) language.

**F – Write about it**

*Write about a notorious murder committed in your country. Mention:*

- where/when the event took place;
- who the victim was;
- how he/she was killed;
- how the case was solved;
- who the murderer was;
- what happened to him/her.

## **Answers**

### **B – Listen and answer**

1. F – They took place in the 1920s. 2. T 3. T 4. T 5. F – He says it reveals their humanity.  
6. T 7. F – De Niro thinks Hale felt he was loved by the Osage. 8. F – He states that he can't say that.

### **C – Read and answer**

1. They assigned themselves the role of guardians who looked after the Osage's wealth. 2. They had become wealthy because oil had been discovered on their land. 3. By killing them one by one. 4. They still feel the injustice of it. 5. The film centres on a love story. 6. The fact that she is of Blackfoot and Nimiipuu heritage. She was able to draw inspiration from her great-grandmother. 7. She mentions the attempts to suppress other Native American tribes, as well as the attacks on wealthy Black Americans and the looting of their homes and businesses by white mobs. 8. He could not understand why Hale behaved the way he did. 9. He says they, like Hale, are widely admired despite their dangerous stupidity. 10. He brought them into all aspects of the filming. They were not just used as extras. They were invited behind the cameras and were employed in making the costumes.

### **D – Learn it! Use it!**

1. looted 2. nephews 3. greedy 4. eager 5. blankets 6. pierced

### **E – Ready for the C1 ADVANCED English Test?**

1. truthful 2. fussy 3. betrayal 4. reckoning 5. unshakeable/unshaking 6. entitlement  
7. banality 8. endangered