

THE MAKING OF THE *PHANTOM MENACE*

We all know about Star Wars: a classic tale of good versus evil, set “a long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away”. The first trilogy was made between 1977 and 1983 and it soon became such a phenomenon that the whole world waited for the prequel (= *qui précèdent*) episodes. The world waited for nearly 16 years! Here is the story of the making of Star Wars, episode I: the Phantom Menace.

On November 1, 1994, George Lucas, creator of Star Wars began writing the screenplay of Star Wars episode I: it took him 2 years to finish! In the meantime Rick Mc Callum, Lucas’s collaborator, found locations for the film. In early 1995, casting began: actors were auditioned in seven different countries over a period of 2 years. The following actors were chosen: Liam Neeson (Jedi Master Qui-Gon Jinn), Ewan McGregor (Obi-Wan Kenobi), Ray Park (Darth Sidious’s evil apprentice Darth Maul), Jake Lloyd (Anakin Skywalker) and Natalie Portman (Padmé/ Queen Amidala). After that, the building of the production elements began. Between August 1996 and June 1997, 70 sets and thousands of props (= *accessoires*) and gadgets were built, 1100 costumes were made, 140 aliens and droids were created by concept artists.

On Thursday, June 26, 1997, after 3 years of preproduction, the shooting began. It ended on September 30, 1997. While the film was being shot, 45 technicians worked in postproduction to integrate the computer-generated backgrounds (= *arrière-plans*) and characters into the live action. Out of the movie’s total 2200 shots, 1900 were special effect shots: more than in any other film in history.

Over the following 2 years the film was edited. In February 1999, the music was recorded, and in March the final sound mix was put together.

After 4 years of hard work *The Phantom Menace* was finally finished. Advertising began. The film was released on May 21, 1999 and the rest is history!!




1. READ THE TEXT AND COMPLETE THE CLAPBOARD.


FILM TITLE			
DIRECTOR			
STAR WARS			
	WHO ?	WHEN ?	HOW LONG ?
SCREENPLAY			
LOCATIONS			
ALIENS AND DROIDS			
ACTORS			
SHOOTING			
DATE OF RELEASE			

2. CAPTION (= légende) THE IMAGES WITH SENTENCES FROM THE TEXT.


A



B



C



A.

B.

C.

3. WRITE SENTENCES USING THE INFORMATION ON THE CLAPBOARD.