

# Women in film



---

In news that is sure to divide movie fans, vampire romance franchise *Twilight* is to be revived for five short films.

Five female directors will be selected to bring the popular characters back to life in mini-movies shown exclusively on Facebook in 2015. However, none of the original cast is expected to star.

The series, titled *The Storytellers – New Creative Voices of ‘The Twilight Saga’*, is backed by the Women in Film organisation.

A panel of judges including Kristen Stewart, who plays Bella Swan, and Stephenie Meyer, who wrote the original bestselling books, will mentor the chosen directors.

Kate Winslet, Octavia Spender, Julie Bowen, *Frozen* co-director Jennifer Lee, *Twilight* director Catherine Hardwicke and producer Cathy Schulman are also believed to be involved.

Fans will then help decide the winner through Facebook and crowdsourcing platform Tongal.

“The female voice is something that has become more and more important to me as I’ve worked in the film industry,” said Meyer.

“I’m honoured to be working with Women in Film, Lionsgate and Facebook on a project dedicated to giving more women a chance to be heard creatively.”

The representation of women in the film industry has come under fire in recent times. A United Nations backed report, published last week, found that although women represent half of the world’s population, just 30.9 per cent of all speaking characters in movies are female.

The study also noted that when films featured a female director or writer, the number of female characters on screen increased significantly, indicating that hiring more female filmmakers could help the problem.

## Source

<http://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/films/news/twilight-to-return-for-five-short-facebook-films-9766995.html>

[Accessed 5 October 2014] © Jess Denham, The Independent

## Reading

1. Who wrote the original bestselling books?

- a. Kristen Stewart
- b. Bella Swan
- c. Stephenie Meyer

2. Which organisation has backed the short films?

- a. New Creative Voices
- b. Women in Film
- c. The United Nations

3. What role will Twilight fans have? Answer using direct quotations from the text.

*In this question you will retrieve information from the text.*

---

---

---

4. What has become more and more important to Stephenie Meyer? Answer using direct quotations from the text.

*In this question you will retrieve information from the text.*

---

---

---

5. What is Meyer's opinion of women in the film industry? Answer using a point-evidence-explanation structure.

*In this question you will be using inference.*

---

---

---

---

---

---

6. What did the United Nations discover following their research? Answer using a point-evidence-explanation structure.

*In this question you will be using deduction.*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

7. What representation or impression of women is presented in the extract? Answer using a point-evidence-explanation structure.

*In this question you will be analysing the text.*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### **Oracy**

8. Imagine you are creating a short film about your school that will be shown at school open evenings and parents' events. Write a speech to be read in assembly for Years 7-9 to encourage other students to take part in your film. The speech should last about 3 minutes.

### **Writing**

9. S4C are creating a new programme where school leavers are able to spend a day doing their dream job. Write a letter to a company of your choice persuading them that you should be chosen for the programme. For example, if you would like to spend a day working on a television or film set, you could write a letter to S4C. Write 200-300 words.