Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

# actor

actor [actor actors] BrE ['æktə(r)] NAmE ['æktər] noun a person who performs on the stage, on television or in films/movies, especially as a profession

# Word Origin:

late Middle English (originally denoting an agent or administrator): from Latin, doer, actor, from agere 'do, act'. The theatre sense dates from the 16th cent.

### Thesaurus:

### actor actress noun C

• She is one of the country's leading actors.

performer • • artist • • comedian • • entertainer • |especially AmE movie star • |BrE usually film star • |especially BrE artiste •

a **young** actor/actress/performer/artist/comedian/entertainer/artiste

a famous actor/actress/performer/artist/comedian/entertainer/movie star/film star

a/an talented /aspiring actor/actress/performer/artist/comedian/entertainer

### Example Bank:

• She is one of the country's leading actors.

### actor

ac tor W3 /'æktə \$ -ər/ BrE AmE noun [countable]

someone who performs in a play or film

leading/principal actor

She has starred with many leading actors.

character actor (=an actor who takes unusual or interesting roles)

# COLLOCATIONS

# adjectives

- a good/fine/great actor He had a reputation as a fine actor.
- a well-known /famous actor I'd really like to be a famous actor.
- a professional/amateur actor It isn't easy to become a successful professional actor.
- the leading /principal actor (=acting the most important part) Schwarzeneeger was one of Hollywood's leading actors.
- a supporting actor (=acting a part that is not the most important one) She was awarded an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor.
- a talented /accomplished actor Jacobsen was one of the most accomplished actors of his generation.
- a comic actor He was a comic actor and he always got a laugh.

- a classical actor (=acting parts from important traditional literature) a drama school that trains classical actors

# NOUN + actor

- a movie/film/screen/Hollywood actor the movie actor Brad Pitt
- a stage actor Most stage actors are very badly paid.
- a television/TV actor For several years he had small parts as a television actor.
- a comedy actor Jason was voted top TV comedy actor.

• a character actor (=an actor who is good at unusual or interesting roles) As a character actor you get interesting parts.

# THESAURUS

• actor someone who performs in a play or film: Her son wants to be an actor. | Both my parents are actors.

• actress a woman who performs in a play or film. Many women prefer to be called actors rather than actresses: Who was the actress who played Jane Eyre? | She's one of my favourite actresses.

- star a famous actor: Julia Roberts is a famous Hollywood star. | The hotel is popular with movie stars.
- the star someone who plays the most important part in a play or film: Daniel Radcliffe is the star of the 'Harry Potter' films.

• co-star one of two or more famous actors who have important parts in a play or film: Her co-star Jodie Foster won the Best Actress Award.

- the lead the main acting part in a play or film: He will play the lead in a new version of 'Dracula'.
- extra an actor in a film who does not say anything but is part of a crowd: She started her career as an extra in TV soap operas.

• understudy an actor who learns a part in a play so that they can act the part if the usual actor is ill: Vanessa had flu, and her place was taken by her understudy, Miss Lisa Fennell.

# a group of actors

• the cast all the actors in a play or film: Other members of the cast include Johnny Depp and Danny DeVito. | She will head the cast (=she will have the most important part).

- company a group of actors who perform plays together: In 2006, he joined the Royal Shakespeare Company. | The play will be performed by an all-female company.

#### actor

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