

## Movies & Languages 2014-2015

### *The Iron Lady*



*About the movie* (subtitled version)

<b>DIRECTOR</b>	Phyllida Lloyd
<b>YEAR / COUNTRY</b>	2011 / United Kingdom
<b>GENRE</b>	Biographical
<b>ACTORS</b>	M. Streep, J. Broadbent, O. Colman, R. Allam

#### PLOT

*The Iron Lady* is a surprising and intimate portrait of Margaret Thatcher (Meryl Streep), the first and only female Prime Minister of The United Kingdom. One of the 20th century's most famous and influential women, Thatcher came from nowhere to smash through barriers of gender and class to be heard in a male dominated world.

#### LANGUAGE

The Queen's English with British Idiomatic English.

#### GRAMMAR

##### Indirect speech + infinitives

###### 1 He promised to write

Speech relating to actions (e.g. promises, agreements, orders, offers, requests, advice and suggestions) is often reported with infinitives.

*He promised **to write** She agreed **to wait** for me*

*Ann has offered **to baby-sit** tonight*

**Object + infinitive** is common with *ask, advise, tell* and *order* (but not with promise or offer).

*I told **Andrew to be** careful*

*The landlady has asked **us to be** quiet after nine o'clock*

*I advise **you to think** again before you decide*

*The policeman told **me not to park** there*

###### 2 He asked her how to...

The structure **question word + infinitive** is common. It often corresponds to a direct question with *should*.

*He asked her **how to make** a white sauce ("How should I make a white sauce?")*

*Don't tell me **what to do** I've forgotten **where to put** the keys*

*I didn't know **whether to laugh or cry***

#### VOCABULARY

<b>Aspire:</b> to have a great ambition or ultimate goal	<b>To nip:</b> to bite or pinch sharply
<b>Blotted:</b> soaked up, or absorbed	<b>Madhouse:</b> a place where insane persons are detained and treated

<b>Black out:</b> a cut off of electrical power	<b>To drop by:</b> to pay a brief, casual visit
<b>Constituency:</b> the body of voters or the residents of a district represented by an elected legislator	<b>Cops:</b> police officers
<b>Check-up:</b> an examination to see if something is in order	<b>To fuss:</b> to disturb or vex with unimportant matters
<b>Grocer:</b> one that sells foodstuffs and various household supplies	<b>Hoity-toity:</b> thoughtless giddy behaviour
<b>Inept:</b> lacking in skill or ability	<b>Harangue:</b> a speech addressed to a public assembly
<b>Loony:</b> a foolish or insane person	<b>Hunky-dory:</b> free of trouble or problems
<b>On the prowl:</b> to roam through stealthily, as in search of prey or plunder	<b>Obstinate:</b> stubbornly refusing to change one's opinion or chosen course of action, despite attempts to persuade one to do so
<b>Self reliant:</b> confident in your own abilities and able to do things for yourself, not needing help from other people	<b>Rocky:</b> marked by obstacles or problems: difficult
<b>Slacker:</b> a person who shirks work or obligation; especially one who evades military service in time of war	<b>Screech:</b> a loud and very high sound
<b>To sort:</b> to separate and put (people or things) in a particular order	<b>To whine:</b> to complain in an annoying way
<b>To tackle:</b> to forcefully seize	<b>Reckless:</b> careless of consequences