

Do you like superhero movies?

Simon / UK



Part 1: Listen to the conversation and answer the questions.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | How does Simon feel about superhero movies? | 2 | Which superheroes did Simon like as a child? | 3 | What does Simon say about modern superhero stories? |
| a | He likes them | a | Superman and Spiderman | a | They are repetitive |
| b | He dislikes them | b | Iron Man and Wonder Woman | b | They are unrealistic |

Part 2: Put the following words in the text.

sense / death / indestructible / million / loads / new / superhumans / little / balance / run

Hi, I'm Simon. I'm from the UK. And the question in front of me is, what about superhero movies? Do I like them or do I dislike them?

I dislike them. When I was _____, I used to love Superman. I used to love Batman. I used to like Spiderman. But in recent years, there are so many _____ now in all these movies that it's becoming too confusing, especially the Marvel superhero movies. There's about 50 different superheroes in it, and if they all have superpowers and they're all _____, what can they do? They just _____ themselves out.

The stories never make _____. They're too fast, they're too confusing. And when you've got _____ of loads of superheroes all fighting each other, you rapidly _____ out of ideas. When you've seen one superhero punch another superhero through a skyscraper, you've seen it a _____ times. There is nothing _____ about the superhero genre anymore. It's been done to _____. It's so boring, and I absolutely do not like them. So, no, I don't like superhero movies. Boo.

Answer Key

| | |
|--|---|
| Do you like superhero movies? Simon / UK |  |
|--|---|

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Hi, I'm Simon. I'm from the UK. And the question in front of me is, what about superhero movies? Do I like them or do I dislike them?

I dislike them. When I was **little**, I used to love Superman. I used to love Batman. I used to like Spiderman. But in recent years, there are so many **superhumans** now in all these movies that it's becoming too confusing, especially the Marvel superhero movies. There's about 50 different superheroes in it, and if they all have superpowers and they're all **indestructible**, what can they do? They just **balance themselves out**.

The stories never **make sense**. They're too fast, they're too confusing. And when you've got **loads of loads of** superheroes all fighting each other, you rapidly **run out of** ideas. When you've seen one superhero punch another superhero through a skyscraper, **you've seen it a million times**. **There is nothing new about** the superhero genre anymore. **It's been done to death**. It's so boring, and I absolutely do not like them. So, no, I don't like superhero movies. Boo.

indestructible

Meaning: Impossible to destroy or damage.

Examples:

- The superhero is **indestructible**, so no weapon can harm him.
- This backpack is made of **indestructible** material that lasts for years.

when you've seen one ... you've seen it a million times

Meaning: A phrase used to say that something is very repetitive and unoriginal.

Examples:

- **When you've seen one** action movie, **you've seen it a million times**—they all have the same explosions.
- **When you've seen one** romantic comedy, **you've seen it a million times**—they always have the same ending.

balance themselves out

Meaning: To cancel each other's effects, making things equal.

Examples:

- If every superhero has the same strength, they **balance themselves out**, and no one is special.
- Eating healthy **balances itself out** with exercising to maintain good health.

make sense

Meaning: To be logical or easy to understand.

Examples:

- The plot of that movie didn't **make sense**—it was full of random twists.
- It doesn't **make sense** to buy a car if you don't have a driver's license.

loads of loads of

Meaning: A casual way of saying "a huge amount" or "very many."

Examples:

- There were **loads of loads of** people at the concert last night.
- I have **loads of loads of** assignments to finish before the weekend.

there is nothing new about

Meaning: Used to say that something is not original or interesting anymore.

Examples:

- **There is nothing new about** superhero movies—they all follow the same formula.
- **There is nothing new about** reality TV shows; they are always the same.

run out of

Meaning: To use up all of something and have none left.

Examples:

- They **ran out of** ideas for superhero movies, so they keep making sequels.
- We **ran out of** milk, so I need to go to the store.

It's been done to death

Meaning: Something has been repeated too many times and is no longer interesting.

Examples:

- The superhero movie concept **has been done to death**—it's just not exciting anymore.
- Zombie movies **have been done to death**, but people still watch them.