Are you a Marvel fan? Watch this video to find out about Stan Lee, the creator of Spider-Man.

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises. Remember you can read the transcript at any time.

Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–h next to the numbers 1–8.

1……..	live action	a.	someone in a film or story who has special powers and helps other people
2……..	animated	b.	a person or company that produces and sells magazines, books, etc.
3……..	a superhero	c.	a very famous and popular character in a story or film
4……..	a publisher	d.	(of a film) involving actors, not drawn images or models
5……..	a franchise	e.	(of a film or cartoon) made of hand-drawn or computer-drawn images
6……..	a cameo (appearance)	f.	involving several types of media, such as books, television, films or music
7……..	an iconic character	g.	a small part in a film, but played by someone very famous
8……..	multimedia	h.	a series of films that are connected to each other by having a continuing story or the same characters

1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

1.	Stan Lee was a comic book writer, editor and publisher.	*True*	*False*
2.	Spider-Man was the only character he created.	*True*	*False*
3.	There were a lot of superhero films in cinemas in the 1930s and 1940s.	*True*	*False*
4.	In the 1960s he began writing comic books.	*True*	*False*
5.	Stan Lee had major acting parts in many Marvel films.	*True*	*False*
6.	The reason why his superheroes are successful is that they are perfect characters.	*True*	*False*

2. Check your vocabulary: gap fill

Complete the sentences with words from the box.

animated	publisher	assistant	multimedia	franchise
comic books	extraordinary	ordinary	live	billions

1. In 1939, Stan started working as an _____ at Timely Comics, a small comic-book _____.

2. In the 1960s, Marvel comic characters appeared in _____ action and _____ films and television programmes.

3. Marvel is now a huge _____ company with a value of _____ of dollars.

4. Fans think of Stan Lee as the father of _____. The Marvel _____ that he created is huge and very successful.

5. His characters show us that _____ people have the power to do _____ things.

Discussion
Do you like comic books and superheroes? Who are your favourites, and why?