Drama Actors Roundtable: Famous Actors Discuss Auditions and Accepting Roles in Films

This listening exercise is a discussion between 6 famous actors:

Michael B. Jordan (most famous for 'Farenheit 451'), Jason Bateman ('Ozark'), Jeff Daniels ('Godless,' 'The Looming Tower'), J.K. Simmons ('Counterpart'), Darren Criss ('Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story') and Matthew Rhys ('The Americans')

All of the actors are American with American accents except for Matthew Rhys, who is from Wales in the UK and speaks with a Welsh accent.

Listen to the discussion and attempt to answer the questions with as much detail as possible. Don't forget to turn off the subtitles!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HZ8H29-lpu0

Vocabulary to check before answering the questions:

an audition - An interview for a role in a film, where the actor should show his/her skill
casting director - The person who decides which actors/actresses will play which roles
a play - A performance at the theatre
shooting - Filming
on set - In the place where they are making the film
mortgage - The loan that you take out in order to buy a house
low hanging fruit - The most easily achieved goals (or roles in a film)

1. **(00:00-00:58)** What happened when actor Matthew Rhys went to audition for a role in a film?

2. **(00:58-01:21)** What does actor Darren Chriss say about feedback?

3. **(01:21-02:02)** According to actor Jaseon Bateman, what is better about auditioning today, and why?

4. **(02:02-02:27)** What joke do the actors make about seeing actor Jeff Daniels in a play?

5. **(03:27-03:53)** What had actor Michael B. Jordan recently said about acting, and why was he worried to talk about it?

BONUS QUESTION: (3:45-03:53) If you listen again to question 5, can you catch at least 2 comments that other actors make during the laughter?

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6. **(03:54-04:21)** According to Michael B. Jordan, what are 2 things that you should not do when considering a potential role in a movie?

7. **(04:21-04:35)** What quick comment does actor Darren Chriss make here about saying no to roles?

8. **(04:35-05:49)** What was one mistake that actor J.K Simmons made early on in his career, and what would he have preferred to do?

   BONUS QUESTION: (05:50-06:11) What are the exact words that Michael B. Jordan says during these 21 seconds?

9. **(06:24-06:48)** What two things does Jason Bateman aim not to do when filming?

10. **(06:48-07:29)** What types of roles does Jason Bateman try to avoid?

11. **(07:29-08:48)** What are 3 different reasons that 3 different actors give for choosing to take a role in a film?