

CASE STUDY

L2-A1

Part 1:

Born on January 17, 1962, in Newmarket, Ontario, [I] was the youngest of four children. Throughout [my] childhood, [my] father, Percy, suffered from manic depression and [my] mother, Kathleen, had kidney problems. [My] family's financial situation was like a roller coaster ride, going from middle-class comfort to poverty. [I] was put down by my peers because of my family circumstances. To overcome this, [I] developed funny routines to make them laugh so [I] would be accepted.

When [I] was 16 and in my first year of high school, [my] father lost his job as an accountant and could not find other work. [My] family became homeless, and [I] was forced to drop out of school to help earn money. After working as an office building cleaner with [my] family, [I] decided [I] had to do what [I] loved and had talent for comedy. Five years and several movies later, [I] became a stand-up comic.

WHO AM I?

[Answer: Jim Carrey]

Continue with Part 2 as a class.

Part 2:

In 1990, his character Fire Marshall Bill became a hit on the television series *In Living Colour*. Then he was in *Doing Time on Maple Drive*, a made-for-TV movie, which was nominated for an Emmy Award. Unfortunately, before he became a big success, his mother died of kidney failure. He also ended his seven-year marriage to Melissa Womer, with whom he had a daughter, Jane.



In 1994, Jim Carrey had three movies playing at the theatres - *Ace Ventura: Pet Detective*; *The Mask*; and *Dumb and Dumber* - all of which became blockbusters! Unfortunately with his success came tragedy. His father, with whom Jim was close, died unexpectedly.

Since then, Jim has appeared in *Batman Forever*, *Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls*, *The Cable Guy*, and *Liar Liar*. He received \$20 million for the last film, the highest amount ever given to a comedian in a film. He has also been host and guest on many talk shows. Besides having won numerous awards, Jim Carrey is immortalized on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

(Horizons 2000+, page 22)

List the other movies Jim Carrey has starred in:

List the obstacles Jim has faced in his life:

List Jim's accomplishments: