

Hollywood Halts the Release of 'The Batman' in Russia

VOCABULARY WORDS

1. Halt /hôlt/ (verb) bring or come to a sudden stop; cease
Example: The car came to a halt and then started to roll forward.
2. Cease /sēs/ (verb) bring or come to an end; halt
Example: The fighting along the border has temporarily ceased.
3. Significant /sig'nifikənt/ (adjective) sufficiently great or important to be worthy of attention; noteworthy.
Example: The woman won a significant amount of money in the contest.
4. Debut /dā'byōō/ (verb) of a new product) be launched.
Example: He marked his debut by beating the champion..
5. Blockade /blă'kād/t/ (verb) an act or means of sealing off a place to prevent goods or people from entering or leaving.
Example: An international blockade of the island was proposed by Austria but rejected by England..



Warner Bros. is **halting** the release of “The Batman” in Russia, just days before it was to open in theaters there, as Hollywood moved to **cease** distribution plans in the country following Vladimir Putin’s invasion of Ukraine.

Warner Bros., the Walt Disney Co. and Sony Pictures said that they would “pause” the release of their films in Russia. Each studio has **significant** upcoming releases that had been set to **debut** internationally in the coming weeks.

“The Batman,” launched in the first week of March in North America and many overseas territories, including Russia.

Hollywood made the decision recently, as it joined the **blockade** of Russia over its invasion of Ukraine. (Time)

DISCUSSION

1. What do you think of Warner Brothers halting the release of 'The Batman' in Russia?
2. Why do you think Hollywood decided to join the blockade?
3. What do you think the impact of their action is going to be?
4. What do you think the movie industry can do to promote world peace?
5. What can the other organizations do for peace to resume?