

Using films, clips and audiovisual materials (in the light of today's visual literacies).

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Anglo de la Costa
21st February 2018

You're listening to the John Wilson orchestra at the BBC Proms



TRUE OR FALSE?

... students have unlimited access to audiovisual materials.

...we can no longer surprise students with video materials.

...using films in class has lost its magic.

...video can facilitate learning and make language more meaningful and alive to students.

Abstract

In this day and age, more than ever, students have unlimited access to audiovisual materials. So, where do we stand as teachers? We can no longer surprise students bringing some film to class, but we can work our magic and do things with films, clips and other audiovisuals in order to facilitate learning and make language more meaningful and alive to students. So, here I offer some ideas to kick start...



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TeachingEnglish

Ben Goldstein - A history of video in ELT

Submitted by Paul Braddock on 31 January, 2014 - 09:42

Sometimes looking back can help us look forward. My talk - [The History of Video in ELT](#), given at the Image conference – came about as a way to trace the changing role of video in the language classroom.

“Follow Me”, the BBC video crash course from the late 70s, is a revealing way to see how video was used in the beginning. The series commonly showed functional language contexts with heavily scripted and rather unnatural dialogue. The purpose of the video was language focus. Learners would watch the sketches and use them as a model for their own output. In fact, the video was exploited no differently to audio.

With the arrival of the Communicative Approach in the 1980s and 90s, the concept of “Active Viewing” came in. Here, more emphasis was placed on the interface. Teachers began to use the remote control to insert subtitles, freeze frame images and remove sound, etc. – all to give learners a more interactive role. However, listening comprehension was still the most common task type. OUP’s “Grapevine” was typical of the published video material made at that time. The series consisted of comic sketches using the same actors in different contexts, with heavily graded language and the exploitation based on skills practice – primarily listening and speaking.

Video was still very much viewed as an added extra, something you did on a Friday afternoon to alleviate the coursebook and its grammar syllabus. For this reason, most videos at that time were a form of light entertainment. Rarely would you explore anything of a more serious nature with video. This coincided with the fun

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<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/ben-goldstein-moving-image-a-history-video-elt>



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LATE 70's



Follow me



1980's and 90's

Communicative Approach

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New Headway Pre-Intermediate



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The before-, while- and after-you-watch paradigm was established and has survived to the present day.

Need for authentic materials led to integrate video into the coursebooks, such as National Geographic materials

TODAY!

Current estimates suggest that 90% of internet traffic is video-based

Video classes already supplement F2F classrooms in Blended Learning programmes.

Flipped Classroom scenario: input is provided on video and watched by learners online.

From video exploitation with the teacher guiding the class to video creation with the learner taking on a more active role.

Six reasons to use video in the ELT classroom

BY LEWIS LANSFORD+ • MARCH 27, 2014 •

1. Video speaks to Generation V (“Generation Virtual”:Gartner)
2. Video brings the outside world into the classroom.
3. Video engages learners
4. Video is a great source of information
5. Video provides stimulus for classroom activities
6. Video provides a good model for learner output.

<http://www.cambridge.org/elt/blog/2014/03/six-reasons-use-video-elt-classroom/>

What can you get from working with audiovisual materials?

- Extensive and intensive listening, a skill often regarded as the most difficult one.
- Exposure to real life English, including regional varieties, accents and slang.
- Intensive language work: expansion of vocabulary, expressions, grammar in context.

What can you get from working with audiovisual materials?

- Pronunciation features.
- Speaking material: discussions, debates, role-playing.
- Writing material: reviews, description of characters, narrative.
- A most student-friendly learning environment.

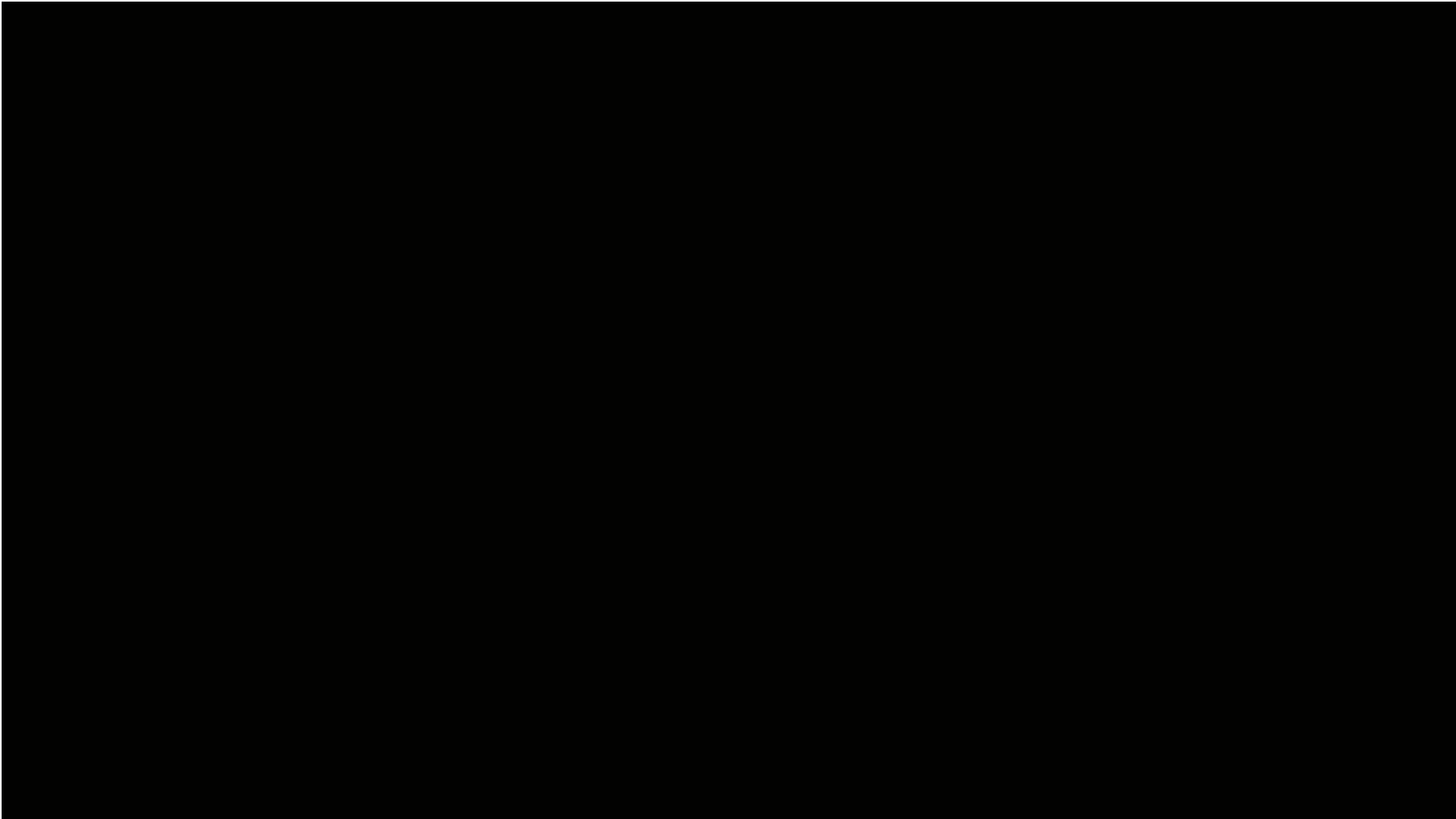
EDUTAINMENT

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Edutainment (also **educational entertainment** or **entertainment-education**) is a form of entertainment designed to educate as well as to amuse.

Edutainment typically seeks to instruct or socialise its audience by embedding lessons in some familiar form of entertainment: TV programmes, computer and video games, films, music, websites, media software, etc...

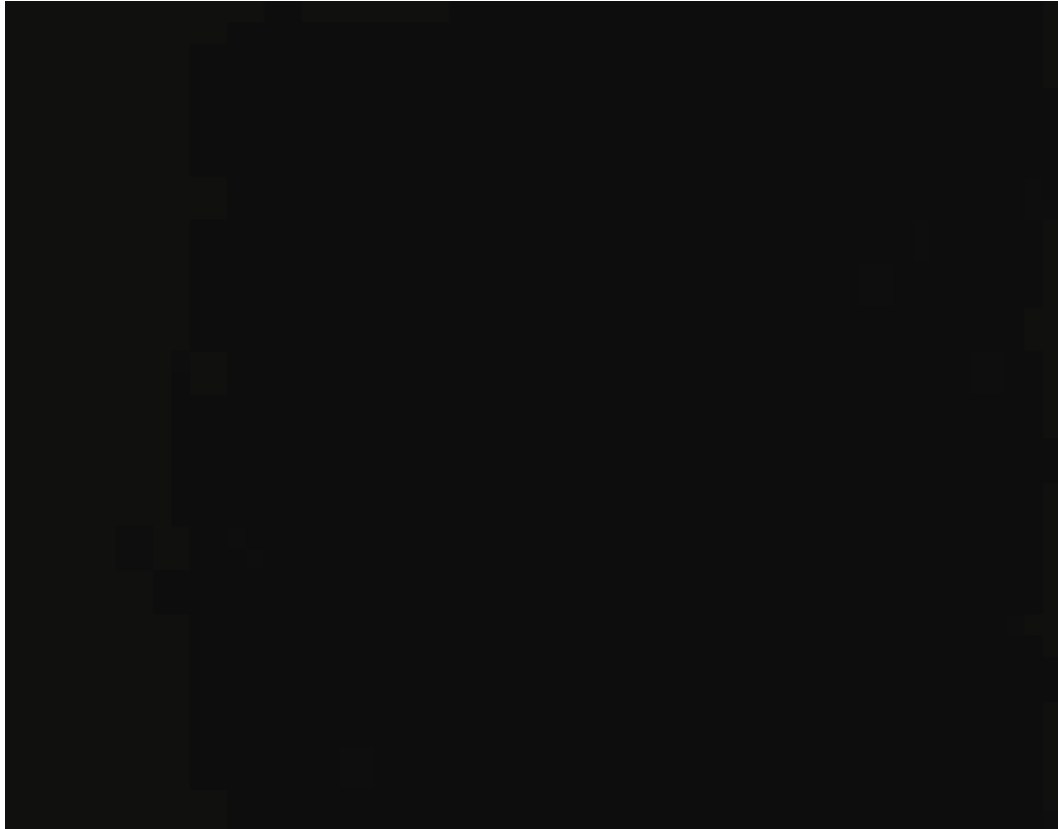
An expert's word



Uses of video according to John Huges

1. Inspiration/engagement for students
2. Informational strength (visual + audio)
3. Integration of skills + language learning

DEATH BECOMES HER



What do I see?

It's the question I'm most afraid of *Idol, goddess, shameless hussy*

One that asks me what I'm really made of *Diva, princess, lewd and lusty*

What do I see? *Ah, ah, ah...*

Much more than a reflection

A romance with sheer perfection *That's not me, can't be me
Angel, devil, you can trust me*

Chorus *Mon ami*

I see me, I see me *I see*

Actress, woman, star and lover *Whoo, whoo*

Sister, sweetheart, slave and mother *Everywhere I look, baby*

I see me, and I like what I see *All I see is,
A contradiction*

Virgin, temptress, dream of others *Oh, come on
A bad addiction*

Yes, it's me, yes it's me *Knock it off!
An inspiration to a generation*

Chorus

We see you

You mean me?



FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS:

If you were able to live to the age of 90 and retain either the body or the mind of a 30 year-old for the last 60 years of your life, which would you want?

Would you be willing to become extremely ugly physically if it meant you would live for a 1.000 years at any physical age?

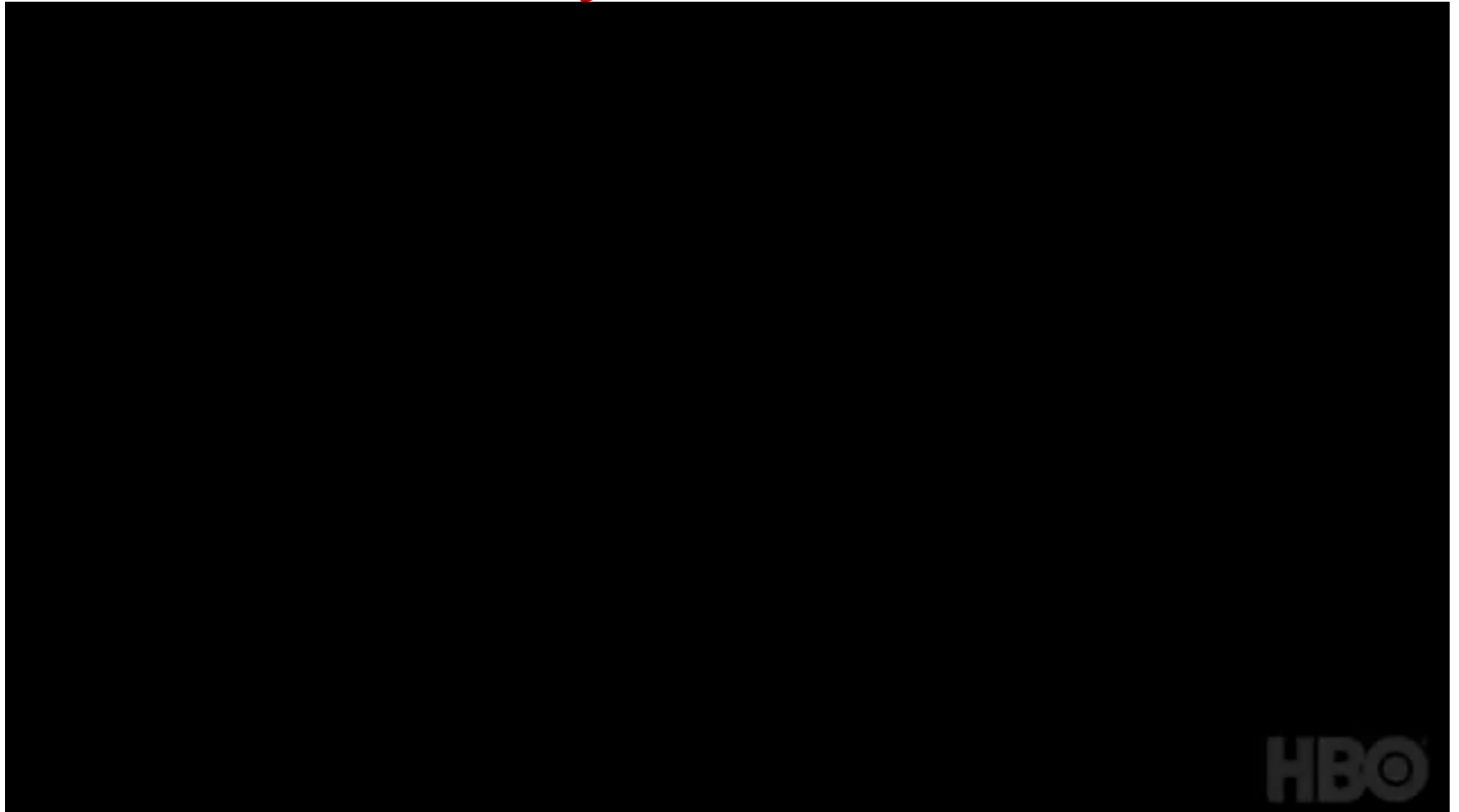
What age seems ideal to you?

Would you accept 20 years of extraordinary happiness and fulfilment if it meant you would die at the end of the period?

Would you like your spouse to be both smarter and more attractive than you?

Would you undergo plastic surgery for purely aesthetic reasons?

What would you do with this trailer?



If you are not in the obit, eat breakfast!

“Old age can be enjoyable.” Discuss

Project work:

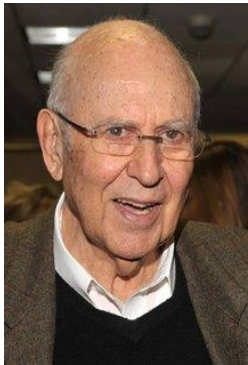
1. Who are these people? Sts find out about them.
2. What are their lives like at such age?
3. What do they think about being so old?
4. What has science discovered about people who live such long lives?

<http://zputlocker.com/watch/LxR67IxO-if-you-re-not-in-the-obit-eat-breakfast.html>

If you are not in the obit, eat breakfast!

Project work:

1. Who are these people? Sts find out about them.



Carl Reiner



Tony Bennett



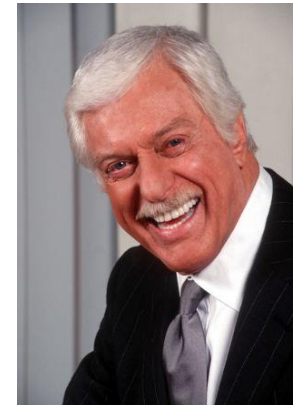
Iris Apfel



Stan Lee



Betty White



Dick Van Dyke

Wallace and Gromit: Shopper 13. Giving instructions

Fill in the blanks using these verbs:

look/ go (x2)/ set/ take/ get/
bring (x2)/ begin

....guidance control to manual

....a left on Stompton Av.

....cheese acquisition

....for the big one

Nowhim home

....out!

....it here

....off my cheese!

....for it.



Wallace and Gromit: Shopper 13. Giving instructions

Fill in the blanks using these verbs:

look/ go (x2)/ set/ take/ get/ bring (x2)/ begin

SET guidance control to manual

TAKE a left on Stompton Av.

BEGIN cheese acquisition

GO for the big one

Now BRING him home

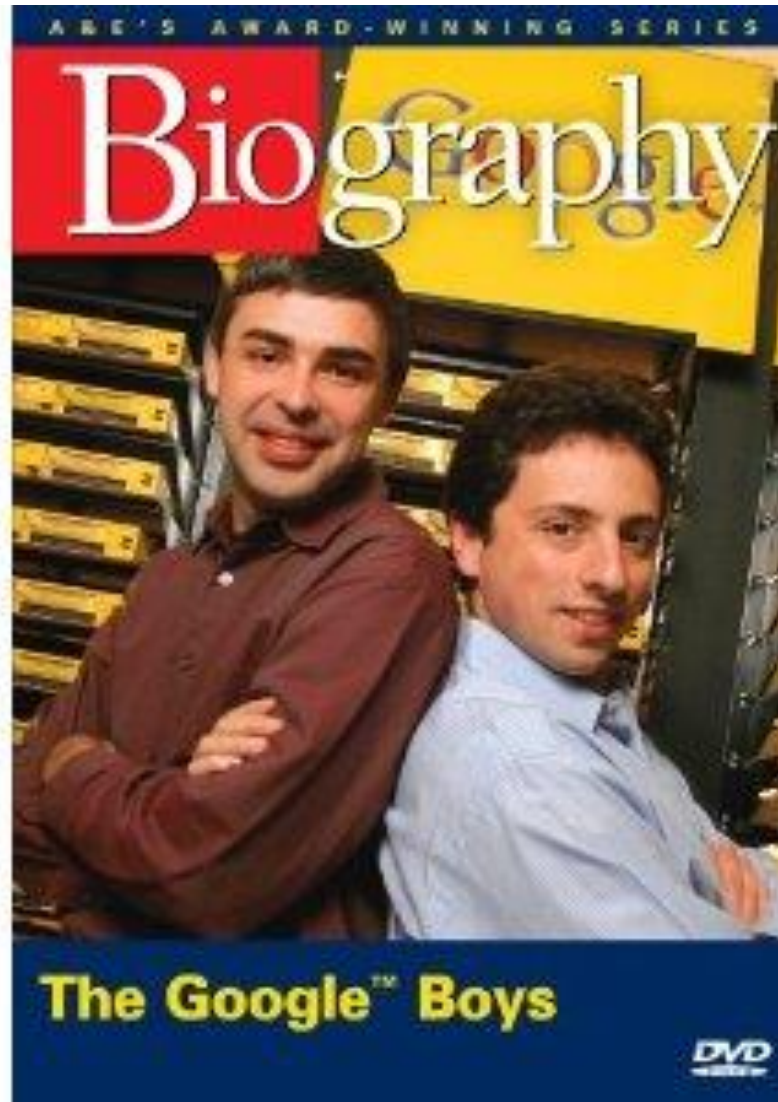
LOOK out!

BRING it here

GET off my cheese!

GO for it.

“The DIY approach” or “relaxed way!”



ANGLO

The Google Boys

names?

What are their names?

How old..?

How old are they?

Where are they from?

Where are they from?

What ...study?

What did they study?

How ... meet?

How did they meet?

How much money ...?

How much money have they got?

When ... Google?

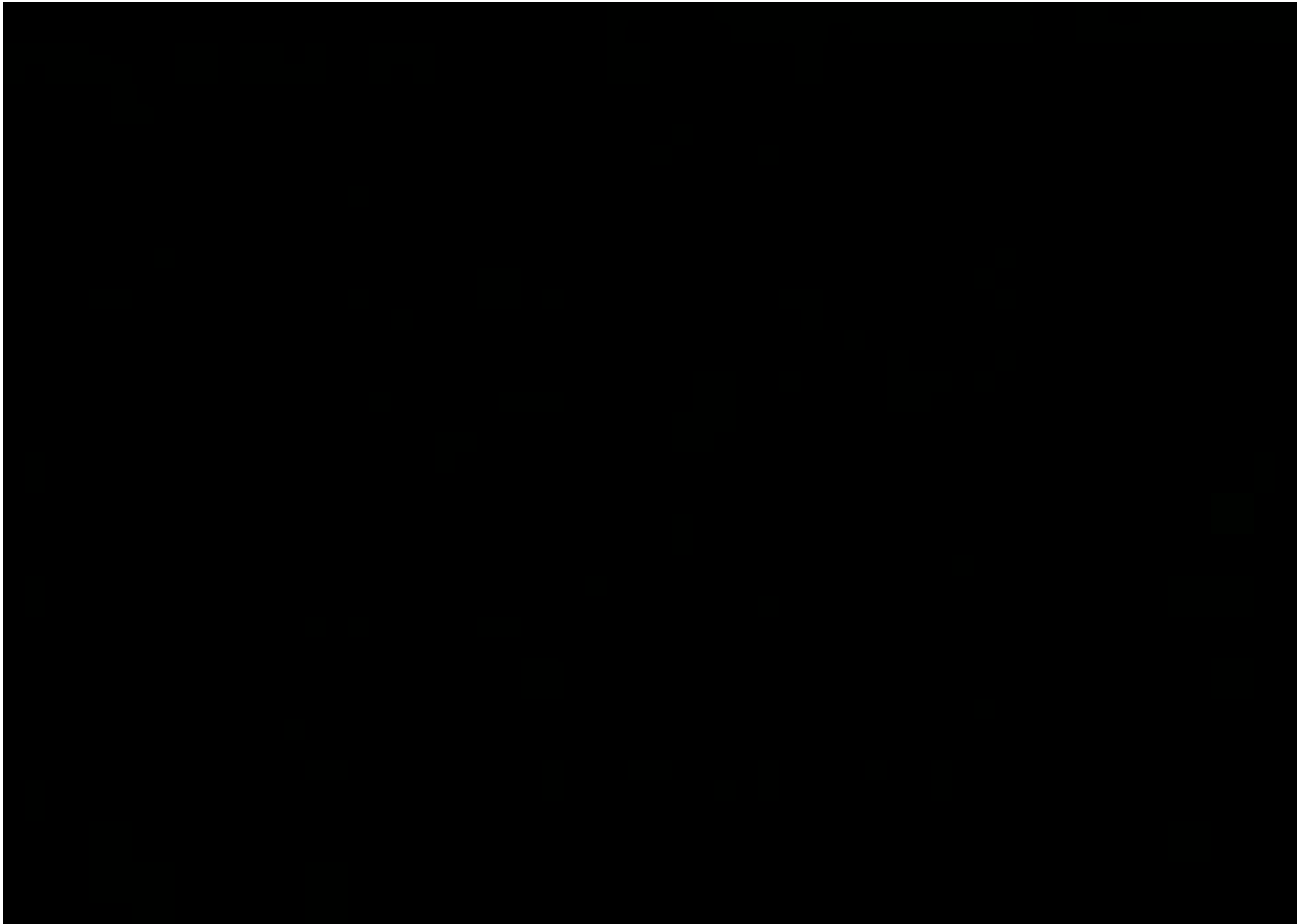
When did they create Google?

...Google stand for?

What does Google stand for?

... future plans?

What are their future plans?



Relating materials to coursebooks

B passive (all famous)
 V cinema
 P violence stress

6A Shot on location

1 READING

a Look at the photos with the article. Do they remind you of any films or TV series that you have seen?

b Now read the article and complete it with a past participle from the list.

inspired designed inhabited inspired owned photographed transformed used welcomed

You are standing in *the place where...*

A Highclere Castle *near Newbury in Berkshire, UK*

The castle has been _____ by the Carnarvon family since 1879, and the Earl and Countess Carnarvon currently live there. In 2010, film director Julian Fellowes, a close friend of the family, was planning a new TV series about an aristocratic family and their servants during the early 20th century. While he was staying at Highclere Castle, he realized that it would be the perfect place to set his historical drama, and the castle was _____ into *Downton Abbey*, the home of the fictional Crawley family. The series was a huge success and it has been sold all over the world. Both the interior and exterior scenes were shot in and around the castle itself.

In the second TV series the castle is used as a hospital during the First World War. These scenes are _____ on a real life event. In 1914, Lady Almira Carnarvon allowed soldiers who had been wounded to be looked after in the castle.

Go there

Highclere Castle and gardens are open to the public during the Easter and summer holidays, and on many Sundays and public holidays from 10.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Visit the Egyptian Gallery which contains several objects brought back from his travels by Lady Almira's husband, the 8th Earl of Carnarvon, who famously discovered the tomb of the young Pharaoh, Tutankhamun.

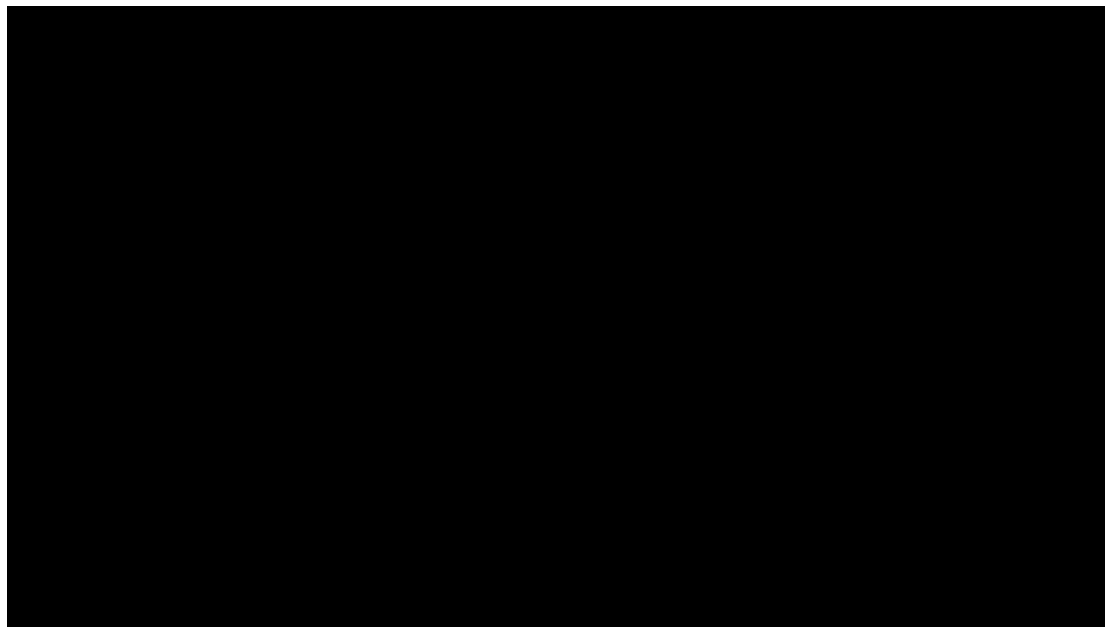
www.highclerecastle.co.uk

B Cortlandt Alley *New York, USA*

In Hollywood's version of New York City, the giant metropolis is full of secret alleys where crimes take place, and criminals are chased by the police. In fact there are hardly any alleys in New York today at all. One of the few remaining ones, Cortlandt Alley, has been _____ for almost all the alley scenes in films and TV series that are set in New York. Films with scenes that were shot there include *Crossroads*, *Dodge* and *Men in Black 2*, and TV series like *Blue Bloods*, *Batman: Empire*, *NYFD Blue*, and *Law & Order*.

Go there

Thousands of tourists want to be _____ in Cortlandt Alley. It is on the edge of Chinatown, in Manhattan, between Franklin Street and Canal Street. In fact it is a perfectly safe place to visit. In real life, it is not _____ by gangsters, but in the home of perfectly respectable businesses such as the New York Table Tennis Federation Training Center.



What task(s) would you do with it?

Pronunciation

How do you pronounce
these words?

boughs

rough

through

cough

enough



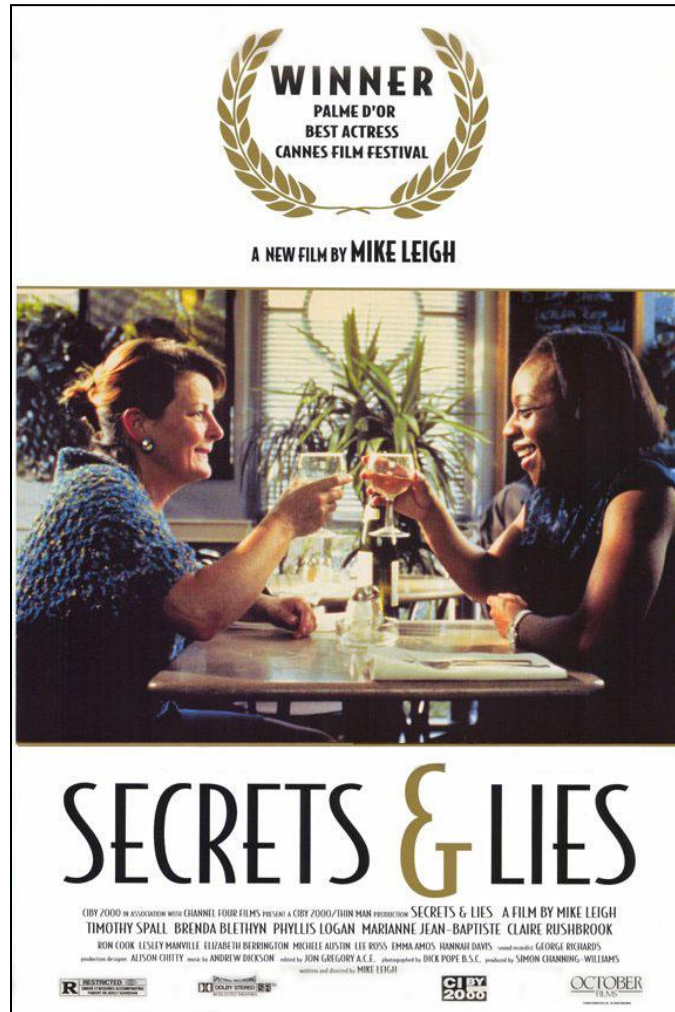
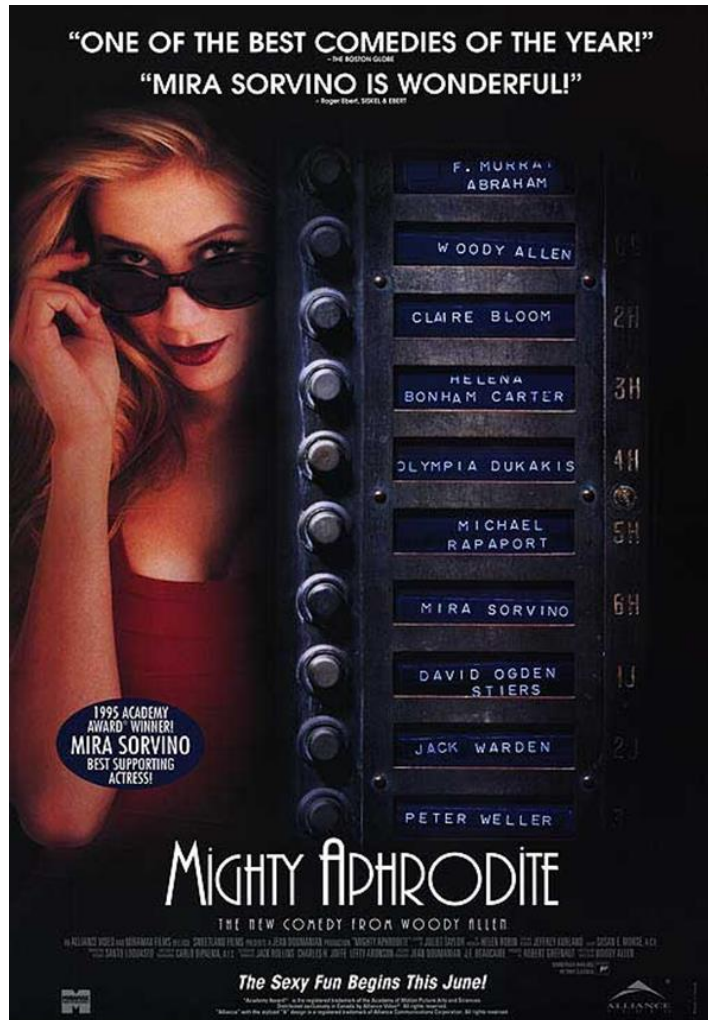
WATCH THIS SCENE:

What do these couples discuss? Take notes using:

(Pair Work)

1. Let's have a baby
2. What am I, chopped liver?
3. The Queen of England.
4. How do you plan to swing it?
5. We'll adopt!
6. Award-winning genes.
7. Same reason we don't lease a car: pride of ownership.
8. Needy kids.
9. Morning sickness.
10. Split their head with an axe.

Topically related films



PLOT SINOPSIS:

Fill in the blanks with these words:

speech award acclaimed
birth biological antagonistic disclose
daunting immensely

Created around Mike Leigh's rich characterisation and suspense, *Secrets & Lies* is one of Mike Leigh's most _____ films. *Secrets & Lies* won the 1996 Palme D'Or at Cannes, and Blethyn picked up the Best Actress _____.

This powerful drama film follows London doctor Hortense (Marianne Jean- Baptiste), an intelligent middle-class black woman who was adopted and now decides to track down her _____ mother. But her _____ discovery is that her natural mother Cynthia (Brenda Blethyn) is white and working class. Cynthia is doubtful of Hortense's claim until she presents her _____ certificate, then Cynthia's painful memories begin to reappear. Cynthia meanwhile is determined to keep her _____ daughter Roxanne (Claire Rushbrook) from making the same mistakes she did. What will happen when Hortense traces her real mum? What family secret is Cynthia's brother; wedding photographer Maurice (Timothy Spall) keeping? And the barbecue looms large - as Leigh's parties always do. Cynthia invites Hortense to her daughter's birthday barbecue, choosing that occasion to _____ to her family the true identity of this newcomer. The characters are _____ moving: Cynthia asking little brother Maurice for a hug, and his agonised party _____.

PLOT SINOPSIS:

Fill in the blanks with these words:

Created around Mike Leigh's rich characterisation and suspense, *Secrets & Lies* is one of Mike Leigh's most **acclaimed** films. *Secrets & Lies* won the 1996 Palme D'Or at Cannes, and Brenda Blethyn picked up the Best Actress **award**.

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FILM 2011

with Claudia Winkleman

bbc.co.uk/film2011
#bbcfilm2011



Thorny Issues or PARSNIP topics

(Politics Alcohol Religion Sex Narcotics Isms Pork)

- **Unemployment**

- *School bullying*

- **JOB MOBING**

- **Drugs**

- **Family break-ups**

- *Death*

- **Accidents**

- **Failure**

- *Illness*

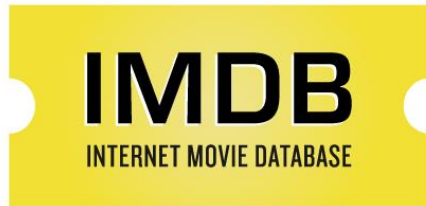
REFLECTIONS:

- They are part of life
- They are of students' concern
- Teacher as educator

PRACTICALITIES:

- Find good films where issues are dealt with in a sensible and respectful way.
- Humour?

Some websites to use:



<http://www.imdb.com>



<http://www.youtube.com/user/movieclips>



http://www.youtube.com/user/movieclipsTRAILERS?annotation_id=annotation_85217&src_vid=w7tqVEdyteg&feature=iv



<http://www.rottentomatoes.com>



<http://film-english.com/blog>



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