



Activity: Narrating a Movie Scene

Materials needed: A previously chosen scene or two from a movie, a device for viewing in class, a worksheet

Description: Pick a scene from a movie that the students would be able to watch and narrate. It does not have to have a lot of action although there have to be changes in action in the scene.



For example, “The girl opened the door. She entered the house. She looked all around. The floors were dirty. The furniture was dusty. She put down her purse.” and so on.

Variation 1: Prepare a worksheet of cloze sentences that follow the action and description in the story. Play the scene or part of the scene (depending on the level of your students), stop the movie, and ask students to complete the worksheet with the correct past tense verbs.

Variation 2: Write on the board a list of base-form verbs and ask students to use those verbs, changing them to the past, to describe what they saw. This can be done as a group, each person adding a bit more.

Variation 3: In pairs, students write a paragraph telling the story. Or, students can number their papers from 1-5 or 1-8, and think of a sentence for each number. (Using fewer numbers forces them to think of the key elements of a good summary. Using more numbers encourages them to analyze details and use more past tense verbs.)