

## Split Viewing

**Film:** *Pearl Harbour* (adaptable to other films)

**Language focus:** practising narrative tenses.

This lesson uses the scene where the Japanese planes first fly into Pearl Harbour and takes in the first part of the action. The students have a lot to observe in the six minutes thirty seconds of scene.

From the scene where the planes first fly towards the island to when the sleeping nurse wakes up and shouts "Everybody to the hospital!"

**Stage One: Pre-viewing task:** Ask your students to answer the following questions in pairs:

*Have you ever seen any war films?  
Did you like them? Why?  
Why not?  
Describe one of the battle scenes.*

**Stage Two: While-viewing task:** Split the class into two groups, one group will watch and listen to the scene; the other will only listen. Explain to those who watch that they must observe what happens, making notes if necessary, and be ready to explain to the others what happened; to the others say they must listen to the action and write a few questions about what they can hear but cannot see. Play the video clip.

**Stage Three: Post-viewing task:** Give each group of students the appropriate role-play card (attached). They will need some time to complete the task. After they have finished they are ready to do the role-play.

**Stage Four: Role-play:** Students work in pairs and conduct the interview; one journalist and one eyewitness. They continue doing the role-play, changing partners until each journalist has interviewed all the eyewitnesses. This can allow for a quick correction slot halfway through if necessary.

**Further Activities:** A good follow-up to this exercise is a writing exercise which involves all the students writing a letter to their families telling of the horrific events.

## Role-play Cards

Choose one of the following characters and answer the questions which follow.

Which person in the film were you?

- one of the boys on the hill
- the girl sleeping on the chair
- the woman hanging out her washing
- one of the boys playing baseball
- one of the sailors playing a game on the ship
- one of the two pilots sleeping in the car
- the photographer

***What were you doing when the planes arrived?***

***How many planes were there?***

***Did you hear the first bomb explode?***

***Where were you when the bombs exploded?***

***What did you do?***

***What did you see?***

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You work for NBC radio. You have been sent to Pearl Harbour just after the horrific attack by Japanese planes. You need to get an exclusive story from some of the eyewitnesses for the folks back home.

You have received this telegram from NBC. It contains the questions they want to ask. Unfortunately during the panic they have been written in the wrong order. Order them before you do the interviews and add two more of your own.

• ***doing/ you/ the planes/ were/ what/ arrived/ when ?***

• ***planes/ were/ how/ there/ many?***

• ***bomb explode/ did/ hear/ the/ first/ you?***

• ***where/ you/ exploded/ when/ were/ the bombs?***

• ***do/ did/ what/ you?***

• ***see/ what/ you/ did?***

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