

Sound Off/ Vision On and Dubbing

Film: *High Fidelity* (adaptable for other films)

This lesson uses the hilarious record shop argument scene when Barry (Joe Black) brings his Monday morning tape into the shop. The main dialogue is between Rob (John Cusack) and Barry with a little input from Dick (Todd Louiso). Three characters in all. There are a lot a gestures and emotions on show so the students have plenty of scope to work with.

From when the camera pans across boxes of singles in the record shop just before Barry's entrance to when Rob talks into the camera.

Stage One: Students watch the scene with the sound off and answer gist questions like:

- Who's the boss?
- Why are they arguing?
- Why does one of them take out a cassette and throw it at the other?
- Why does the other one then run over and switch the record player off?
- Why does he then go up to him and shout in his face?
- What does the guy say to the camera at the end?

Stage Two: Students watch the scene again and predict some the language which may be spoken in the argument. Have them predict six words, for example.

Stage Three: In groups of three, students then write the script for the scene. You may have to re-run the scene several times to help them do this.

Stage Four: Students then take turns to lip-synch the scene standing next to the T.V. This is great fun and students love doing it.

Cooler: Let them watch the original scene and compare it to their own.

Further Activities: Class Oscars. Whose was the funniest? Whose was closest to the original? Whose was the worst? You may want to give prizes for different categories.