

MOVING STORIES

Narrative and the moving image in ELT

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MIXTAPE

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Film in Action

Teaching language using moving images



Kieran Donaghy

DELTA TEACHER DEVELOPMENT SERIES

Session outline

- 1. The importance of narrative and moving images in education and language learning.**
- 2. Practical lesson ideas inspired by short films.**



**“Never underestimate
the power of
a great story.”**

“We have evolved from a species that transmitted stories to one another orally, sitting around a campfire; to one that invented and propagated the use of alphabets and printed texts in order to share stories; to one that has given birth to the tools of creation and distribution of visual images as we strive to tell more and more compelling stories.”

Stephen Apkon

“It is not hyperbole to say that our society’s cultural and storytelling DNA is being transformed – whether we accept it or resist it.”

Stephen Apkon

“I think that stories and the telling of stories are the foundations of human communication and understanding. If children all over the country are watching films, asking questions and telling their stories, then the world will eventually be a better place.”

Beeban Kidron

Universal

Stories are universal and enjoyed across all cultures. For this reason, narrative is invaluable in the language classroom.

Motivation

Stories have the potential to engage different kinds of motivation (integrative, instrumental, intrinsic, extrinsic and dynamic).

Attention

As stories down the ages have demonstrated, narratives have the ability to capture and hold attention.

Authenticity

Stories come across as real (as distinct from something written specially for a coursebook), and resonate with students' own experiences.

Empathy

“When people watch a movie they love, they’re truly living the things taking place on the screen through their mirror neurons. Storytelling is not just a nice intellectual concept, but a hardwired physiological truth.”

Stephen Apkon

***"I believe empathy is the
most essential quality of civilization.
films...to the degree that they glorify mindlessness
and short attention span they are bad,***



***to the degree
that they
encourage EMPATHY
with people
not like ourselves
and encourage us
to think about life,
they are good."***

Roger Ebert

June 18, 1942 – April 4, 2013



Films are texts. We can use many of the techniques we use to exploit print texts with moving images texts.

**We have a revernance
for literature which
does not exist for film.**

**“We honour reading.
Why not honour
watching with the same
passion?”**

Beeban Kidron

Practical lesson ideas inspired by short films and videos

- **The Adventures of a Cardboard Box**
- **The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr Morris Lessmore**
- **I Forgot My Phone**
- **Inseparable**
- **The Man Who Planted Trees**
- **The Black Button**
- **Post-it Love**

Paperman





**Students write an
alternative ending.**

Mixtape





Write a sequel.

We've All Been There



Students imagine that they are a character and decide what will happen to him or her in the next ten years. Each student writes a narrative in the first person, describing the next ten years of their character.

**What goes around
comes around.**

Moments







One character writes
a letter to another
character.

The Reader

a bookshop

post-its

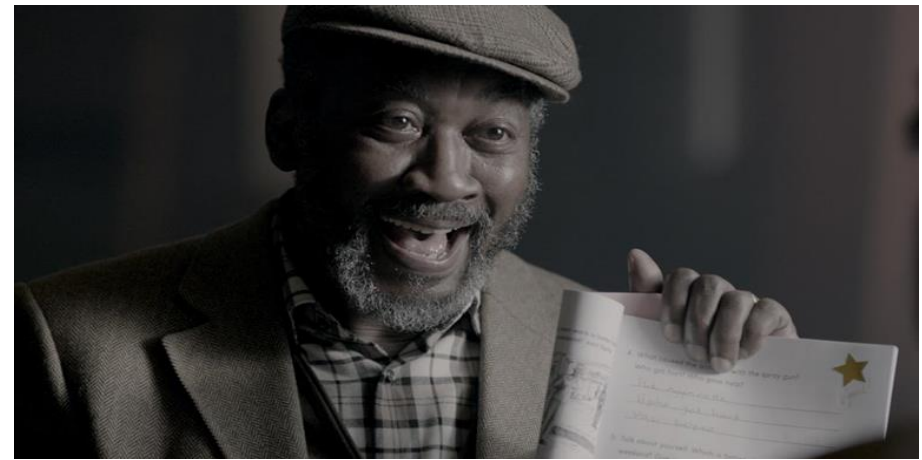
alphabet soup

a library

a comic

scrabble

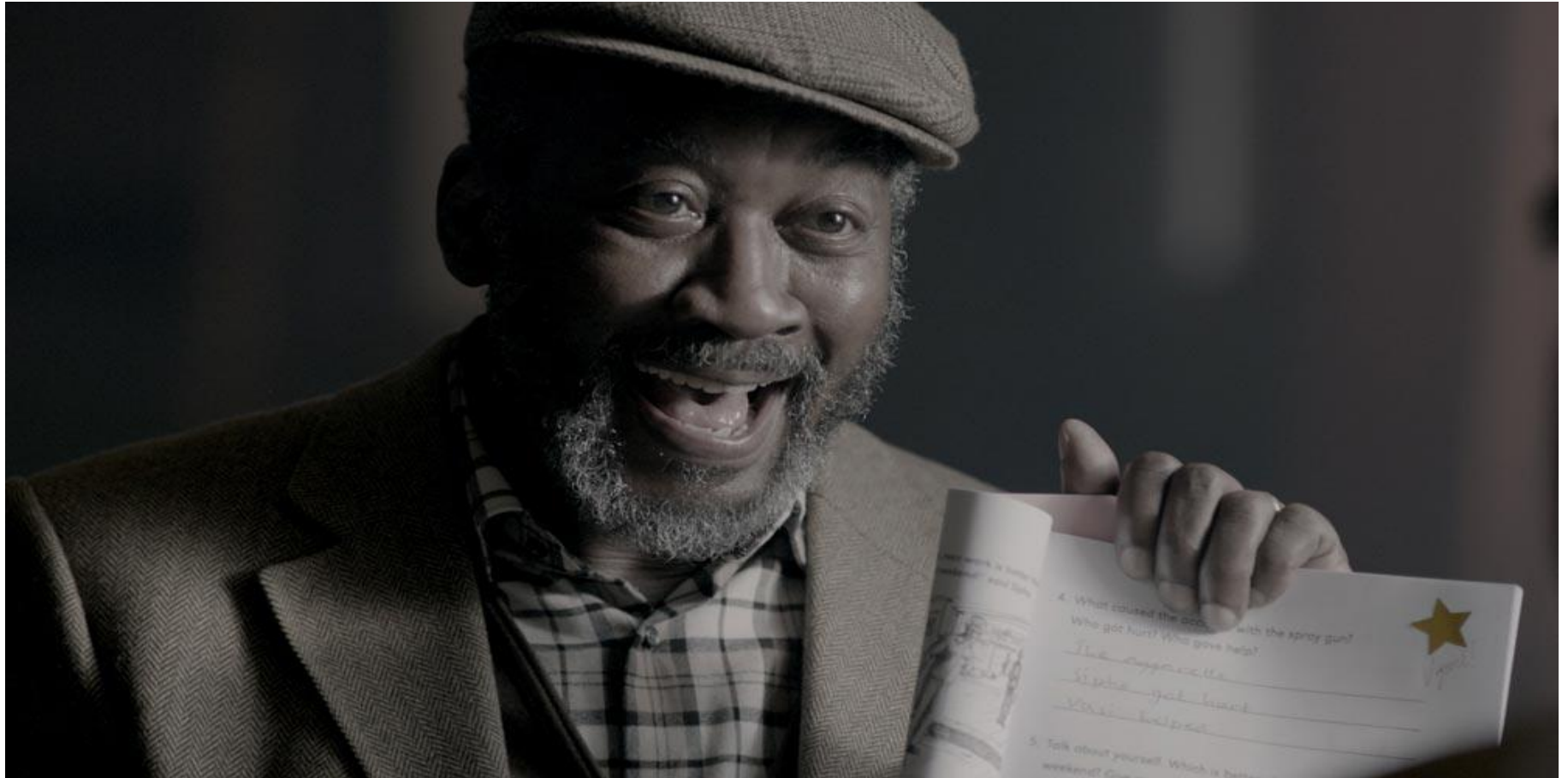














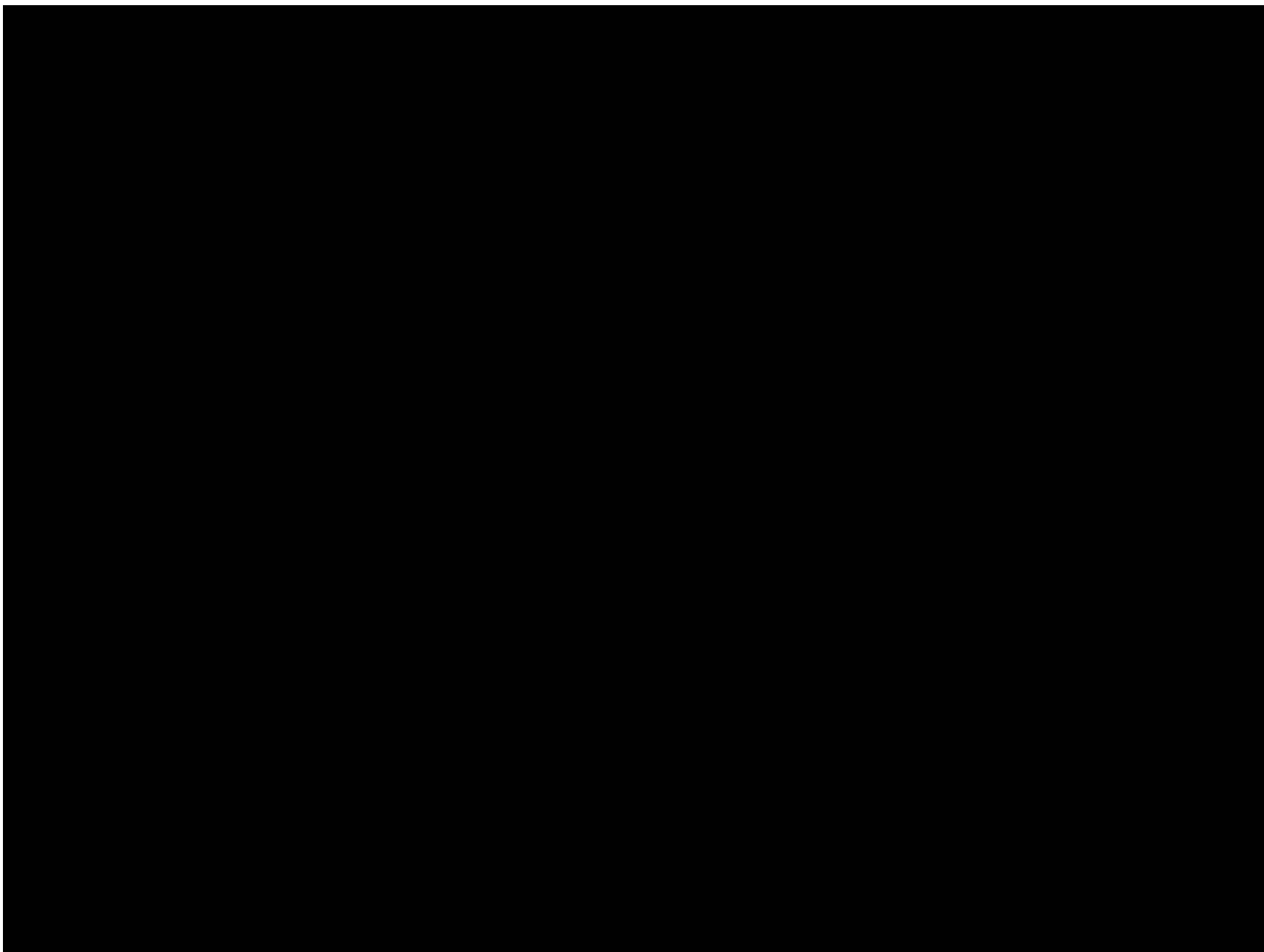


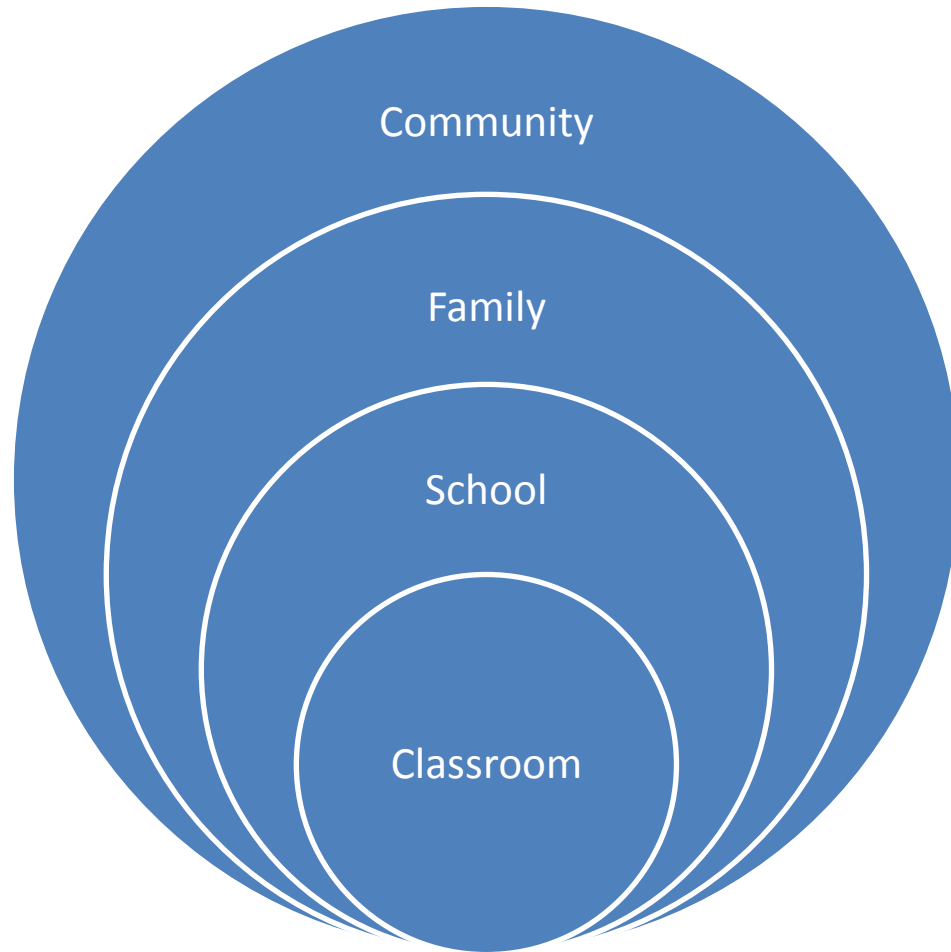
Lost Property





**Students tell their
own stories through
moving images texts**





Film Chronicles

My School

My Family

My FAMILY TREE



My Community



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