Title:
Using DVD and Video in Your ESL Class - Part One

Word Count:
752

Summary:
Have you ever wondered how to use movies in your ESL classes, without just sitting your studen

Here are a few ideas to get you started, using very short movie extracts to present and practi

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Article Body:
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1 No picture

Choose a short extract (2 or 3 minutes) with plenty of sound effects. Play it with the screen

Some birds are singing / A baby is crying
Some birds were singing / A baby was crying
It must / might / can't be birds singing or It must / might / can't have been birds singing
I heard some birds singing / I heard a baby crying

After playing the extract, have students compare what they heard in pairs, and then elicit the

2 No sound

Here's the opposite idea. Show a short extract (again, 2 or 3 minutes is enough) with a lot go

Describe what happened using narrative tenses
Describe the scene
Anticipate dialogue or reactions
Arrange a cut up dialogue which you have given them.

Finally, play the extract again with sound. Having done one of these tasks, your students will

3 Jigsaw viewing

You may have done jigsaw reading activities in your class, where students have half the inform

Half the class watches with no picture, then the other half with no sound (you'll have to take
Half the class have picture and sound, the other half just have sound. You can do this by sitt
One student listens with headphones, while all the others view without sound. The student with

4 Viewing on rewind

Choose a short sequence with a lot of action. For example, a woman enters an apartment, picks

5 Pause / Freeze Frame

If you use pictures in your classroom for introducing new vocabulary, or for describing people

Video is a motivating and effective way to bring variety to your ESL classes. Using short, sh