

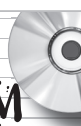
Activity 7: Interviews

Objective



To identify different question types and evaluate their impact on the audience.
(Year 5 Strand 2)

What's on the CD-ROM



Media resources

- Listen to and discuss the audio clip.
- Use the four images as stimulus for the role play.

What to do

In this lesson, the children explore interview techniques and role play interviews using the people shown in the images on the CD-ROM.

- Read some newspaper extracts together; highlight the words spoken by people who were directly involved. Discuss what these quotations contribute to the appeal and content of the story.
- As a class, listen to the audio from the 'Media resources' section of the CD-ROM. Play it once more and ask the children to listen carefully to the questions. As the interview proceeds, prompt the children to comment on the effectiveness of the questions. Highlight key issues of interview techniques: open-ended questions; following up points; responding to unexpected answers; beginning and ending.
- Display the images from the 'Media resources' section of the CD-ROM. Arrange the children into pairs and ask them to choose a person from one of the images to interview for their news story. Discuss how the answers could be recorded: some groups could make written notes and others audio recordings. Ask them to list the things they want to find out and then draft a series of questions.
- Carry out the role play interviews. Share ideas about their success.
- Ask the children to write and refine their questions using photocopyable page 31 'Interviews' and to write down the answers they were given. Ask them to underline one answer that would be a suitable quote for their news story.

Activity 8: Reporter's notebook

Objective



To use varied structures to shape and organise text coherently.
(Year 6 Strand 10)

What to do

This activity explores how to structure a news story from a set of notes.

- Set the context by explaining that journalists usually make notes 'on the spot' and then write them up as a news story afterwards.
- Display an enlarged copy of photocopyable page 32 'Reporter's notebook'. Explain that this is an example of the sort of notes a reporter takes. Ask the children to write these up as a feature article, and to give it a headline.
- When they have finished, ask some of the class to share their headlines and opening sentences. How have they tried to catch the reader's attention? Discuss the different choices they have made about how to start their articles. What information have they highlighted? Why?
- Continue to share and compare the articles. How have the children structured the information? How have they used the two quotations? Encourage them to identify examples of the typical language and structural features of articles.