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Booklet by Jack Lonergan

Messages

Video Activity Booklet for Levels 1 and 2



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Video 1–2

Please note

For A4 size worksheets, photocopy
at 120% of the original size.



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Introduction

This VHS/DVD video pack contains *Messages 1–2* VHS/DVD video, a series of eight five-minute-long drama sequences based around two friends, Emily and Paul. The video is intended to be used over the course of two years and has a specially designed recap section to bridge the gap. The pack also contains worksheets for each programme with explanatory teacher's notes. Full video scripts are also provided. *Messages 1–2* is followed by *Messages 3–4*, a collection of eight five-minute-long documentary sequences. Although both videos correspond to the language and topic areas of the *Messages* course, teachers of lower secondary students in general will find the videos fun and stimulating to use.

Worksheets

The worksheets contain a wide variety of exercises to develop the comprehension and language skills of the students. They are divided into the following sections:

Before you watch

The questions/activities in this section are aimed at introducing students to the topic area and language related to the corresponding video programme. Some of the activities are designed to stimulate a class or group discussion whilst others are more closely vocabulary-based tasks.

While you watch

This section contains several activities which demand more detailed comprehension and practice of the key language items. By the end of the first viewing, students should have gained a 'gist' comprehension. After several viewings and completing the tasks from this section, students should have a more detailed understanding.

After you watch

This task is designed to allow students to make use of the language and structures they have encountered in the programme in order to complete a task related to the topic area. The task is usually a pair or group work activity and requires students to use their imagination to expand on the topic area in a way that is relevant to their own experiences.

Teacher's notes

These notes provide extra information for teachers and suggestions for further activities. They explain how each programme relates to the modules in the *Messages* course and on which particular grammar points and

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vocabulary areas the programme is focused. An answer key to the activities is also provided.

Using the VHS/DVD videos

The worksheets provide a focus for both teacher and student. However, in addition to the worksheet activities, you may wish to include some of the following viewing techniques:

- Silent viewing: Ask students to guess what is happening based on what they see taking place, and the expressions and gestures of the speakers.
- Sound only: Ask students to close their eyes and listen to the words and intonation of the speakers and any background noise or sound effects. Then ask students to describe the scene as they imagine it to look.
- Prediction: Pause the VHS/DVD video and ask students to guess what will happen next.

Using the video scripts

Full video scripts are provided at the back of this booklet. Timings are offered for each scene: VHS video followed by DVD video. The video scripts can be used as a basis for extra activities. Some possible activities are:

- Jigsaw task: Divide the class into small groups. Make a photocopy of the relevant scene from the programme. Cut up the dialogue, either removing the name of the characters or cutting the dialogue according to each speaker. Students then have to decide who says what or they have to reorder the conversation. This can be done pre- or post-viewing.
- Role play: Ask students to act out a relevant scene from the programme, or to base their own role play on a scene.