

Cineclass: Bend it like Beckham!

Part 1 : Before watching the film

1. The title: Bend it like Beckham:

The title of a film is a very important element to introduce and understand the main theme and catch the attention of the audience / the public / the viewers.

Activity 1:

Look at the title « Bend it like Beckham ». What can you imagine about the subject of the film?

2. The poster :

The poster is important to give information about the subject of the film. It the first visual contact the viewers have with a film before watching it. It gives important information about the characters, the story and the place (= the plot / the intrigue)

Activity 2:

Look at the film poster of Bend it like Beckham. Identify and describe it according to the methodology we have studied in class. Use the « Memo » if needed.

[illegible]

Activity 3:

In pairs, guess what the movie is about (its subject, the characters, the impression the poster gives you...)

3. The trailer :

The trailer is a video containing extracts from the film. It gives a first impression of the plot. Its goal / purpose is to attract the public / the audience and make them go to the cinema to watch the film.

Activity 4:

Watch the trailer of Bend it like Beckham. In your opinion, what happens in the film?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-DNwS_CwEAW&t=57s



Activity 5:

Read the synopsis below, is it what you expected? Why ?

Jesminder (known as Jess) is a Sikh teenager living in Hounslow, who loves playing football. Her parents disapprove, wanting her to settle down, get a job as a lawyer and marry a nice Indian boy. Meeting up with another teenage girl, Jules, while having a kick around in the park, Jess discovers there is a local girl's football team and also that there is a chance she could play professionally. She joins the team and becomes best friends with Jules; whilst the team get a chance to go to Hamburg to play. In Germany, Jess and Jules have a falling out over Joe, and Jess' subterfuge is discovered by her parents and she is banned from playing. A crucial cup match is planned (where an American scout will be present) on the same day as Jess' sister's wedding. Will Jess and Jules make up? Can Jess get to the match and the wedding?

Extracted from filmeducation.org

Part 2: After watching the film

1. The characters :

Activity 1 :

Match the characters' pictures to their names:



■
Juliette 'Jules'
Paxton

■
Tony

■
Mr. and Mrs.
Paxton

■
Joe

■
Jesminder
'Jess'
Bhamra

■
Mr. and Mrs.
Bhamra

Activity 2:

Describe the physical aspect and the personality of the three main characters from Bend it like Beckham. Associate the following words to the correct character. You can use the same adjective several times:

Dark-skinned - blue eyes - blonde - dark-haired - sporty - a tomboy- loyal - hardworking - mature - friendly - smart - brown eyes- helpful - determined - stubborn

Character	Physical description	Personality
Jess		
Jules		
Joe		

2. Study a scene from the film:

Activity 1 :

Watch the argument scene and associate the following lines (= *réplique*) to the correct characters:



1	<i>I don't want this <u>shame</u> on my family. That's it! NO MORE FOOTBALL!</i>
2	<i>She's the one getting married! Not me!</i>
3	<i>Jess, you know now that your sister has got engaged, it's different! You know how people talk!</i>
4	<i>He? She said it was girls!</i>
5	<i>I'm joining a girls' team; they want me to play on proper matches. The coach said I could go far!</i>
6	<i>That's not <u>fair</u>! He selected me!</i>
7	<i>But, mom, I'm really good!</i>
8	<i>We let you play all you wanted when you were young, you've played enough!</i>
9	<i>I don't want you running around half <u>naked</u> in front of men.</i>
10	<i>He was touching you all over, putting his hands on your <u>bare</u> legs! You're not a young girl anymore! And you're showing the world your <u>scar</u>!</i>
11	<i>Jess, your mother is right! It's not nice! You must start <u>behaving</u> like a proper woman.</i>

		
Mrs. Bhamra	Mr. Bhamra	Jess

Activity 2:

Watch the scene again and reorder the quotes in the chronological order:

Activity 3:

Use a dictionary to look for the meaning of the words underlined in the characters' lines.

- Shame: _____
- Fair: _____
- Naked: _____
- Bare: _____
- Scar: _____
- Behave: _____

Read the parents' lines again. What do they worry about?

According to the parents, what is it to "behave like a proper woman"?

3. Press reviews and personal opinion:

Activity 1:

Read the film review and do the activities:

A film review: **Bend it like Beckham**

Rating: ★ ★ ★ ★

Bend it like Beckham is one of the most popular romantic comedies of the last twenty years. Released in 2002, it stars Parminder Nagra as Jess who is crazy about football as well as Keira Knightley and Jonathan Rhys-Meyer in the roles of her friends Jules and Joe.

It tells the story of a young Indian girl who wants to see her dreams become true. Jess wants to become a professional football player but she will have to struggle against her parents' prejudices. Will she manage to free herself from family traditions?

The film is set in the suburb of London in the early 2000's. The characters can sometimes look quite stereotypical but they perfectly represent the eternal conflict between teenagers and their parents. The acting is also of a really good standard because Jesminder's parents are funny and strict at the same time. They very well embody the two dimensions of the film, comedy and tradition, by bringing their characters to life with a memorable performance.

I would recommend *Bend it like Beckham*, especially if you are a teenager keen on football. Although it can look a little old-fashioned sometimes, the subjects which are depicted are never-ending for many teenagers around the world.

Inspired by the British Council

In the text underline:

- In red, the vocabulary specifically related to films.
- In blue, the different aspects of the films (location / music / acting...)
- In green, adjectives to qualify the film.

What is the opinion of the author of the review? Justify your answer.

Activity 2:

Now, it's your turn to talk about your opinion about the film. What do you think about it? Did you like it or not? Write your own review!

Express your tastes:

I like

I love

I enjoy

I dislike

I hate

And all the other expressions we've studied in class...

Give your opinion:

I think that...

In my opinion...

To me...

I like ... because...

4. Gender equality in **Bend it like Beckham**:

Activity 1:

Look at the next document carefully and answer the questions in English:

- What type of document is it?

- What is the subject of the document?

- Pick out the 5 different categories compared.

- What can you say about women's situation in 2022?

GENDER EQUALITY: WHERE ARE WE TODAY?

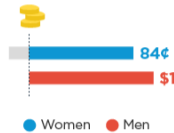
WAGES

Around **63%** of the world's prime working-age women are in the labour force, compared to around **94%** of prime working-age men.

* Aged 25 to 54



And globally women earn **16%** less than men.



The percentage of women in parliament **has doubled** in the last 25 years.



POLITICS



But this only translates into around **26%** of women in parliament today.



EDUCATION

All developing regions have or have almost **achieved gender parity** in primary education.



But the **gender disparity widens** at the secondary and tertiary school levels in many countries.



79 young women for every **100 young men** complete upper secondary school in low-income countries

The adult literacy rate has risen to **86%** from **76%** in 1990.



LITERACY



But women account for **two-thirds** of the world's illiterate.

ADULT LITERACY RATE, 2019

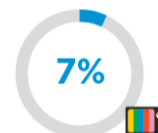


MEDIA

Women's presence as news subjects in print, radio, and television has only increased to **25%** in 2020 from **17%** in 1995.



And only **7%** of news stories evoke gender (in)equality issues, while **3%** challenge gender stereotypes.



Extracted from <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/multimedia/2015/9/infographic-gender-equality-where-are-we-today>

Activity 2:

Read the text and answer the questions:

Euro 2022: Reaction to Lionesses historic win

1 Aug 2022 1 August 2022

England scored an historic win against Germany in the Euro 2022 final at Wembley.

It was a nail-biting match with a goal in extra time from England giving them a 2-1 victory and the trophy.

Lots of people have been saying how significant this win is, for England but also for the profile of women's football.

Celebrities have been quick to congratulate the team on their success, from sports stars to politicians and even royalty.

Reaction to the Lionesses' win

The Queen sent a message to the team after their win, calling them "an inspiration".

In a statement she said: "My warmest congratulations, and those of my family, go to you all on winning the European Women's Championships.

"You have all set an example that will be an inspiration for girls and women today, and for future generations.

"It is my hope that you will be as proud of the impact you have had on your sport as you are of the result today."

Prince William on Twitter said: "Sensational. An incredible win. The whole nation couldn't be prouder of you all. Wonderful to see history in the making tonight at Wembley, congratulations!"

Prime Minister Boris Johnson wrote on social media: "Football has come home! A stunning victory by the Lionesses."

England men's team captain Harry Kane tweeted: "Absolutely unreal scenes at Wembley!! Massive congrats to the amazing Lionesses!! Ella Toone, take a bow for that finish too."

Manchester United and England defender Harry Maguire wrote: "Brilliant game. History made. The whole country is proud of you. Enjoy the celebrations."

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/62375472>

Identify the type of document:

What is the subject?

According to you, who are the Lionesses?

What competition did they win? When?

In the text, highlight the adjectives used to qualify their victory. What can you say about the impact it had in England?

In your opinion, why is their victory symbolical?

Activity 3:



Watch the video and answer the questions:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kqeDcYWvHs4&ab_channel=CBCNews%3ATheNational

Where did the Lionesses celebrate their victory? Tick the correct answer:



Parliament Square

☐

Trafalgar Square

☐

Leicester Square

☐

Pick out the date of the last English victory of a major football title:

"The game of football was quite unsuitable for females and ought not to be encouraged".

In the past, women were not allowed to play football, it was forbidden. Pick out the date when football was banned for women in England:

Pick out the date of the end of the ban: _____

What does the young girl want for the future? Tick the correct answers.

- ☐ She hopes the victory will encourage more girls to play football.
- ☐ She wants boys to accept girls in their teams.
- ☐ She wants more clubs for girls to play football.
- ☐ She wants more gender equality in football.

In 2022, there is still **a big inequality between women and men** playing in Premier League. Identify that difference by ticking the correct answer:

- ☐ Popularity
- ☐ Pay
- ☐ Presence in the media.

The final of the UEFA Women's Euro 2022 set a record. What was it?
