

## Movies and Scripts

<b>❑Time Required</b>	Approximately 45 minutes
<b>❑Key Skills</b>	Audio Input (Listening)
<b>❑Type</b>	Can be accommodated for individuals or pairs (or as a group activity)
<b>❑Overview and Goals</b>	
<p>In this activity, students choose a short scene of a movie, watch it, read the script, and compare it to the original story. Since students get bored with text-only information, reading movie scripts that can also be enjoyed visually will broaden their reading and bring variety to the class. Many books have been novelized from movies, so it is possible to compare movies with books. Here, we will focus on <i>Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone</i>, the first book in a popular English series. The original story is more difficult, but the script is easier to follow because it is mostly dialogue and there are hints of images, and many of the learners will have watched it before.</p>	
<b>❑Advance Preparation (Required Materials, Equipment, etc.)</b>	
<p>The script of the movie (the part with the scene you want to cover) approximately two sheets of A4 paper long (or one A3 paper). DVD of the movie</p>	
<b>❑Procedure</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Watch a scene from the movie (about three minutes long at most). Make sure that you watch it with subtitles so that there are no issues in understanding the meaning (watching in Japanese might be preferable in some cases).</li> <li>2. Hand out the script of the scene and have them read it independently. Explain the difference between dialogue and stage direction, just in case.</li> <li>3. In pairs, take turns reading one line at a time (twice, in a different sequence).</li> <li>4. Watch the scene again.</li> <li>5. Distribute a text excerpt of the same scene from the original story for those interested in reading the original.</li> </ol> <p>* You may watch the video again between 2 and 3, or try shadowing. If students read the script and understand English, then read it in pairs to consolidate their understanding, they will be able to hear English more clearly when they watch the video again.</p>	

### [Application & Explanation]

#### Teaching Points

I used a scene from the first book of the series, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, where

Harry and others are assembled in their respective dormitories. Many students want to read the series but find it challenging (YL 8.0). Many who try get frustrated and give up. However, with the script, students can easily grasp the content of the book as it is set with the scenes from the movie and then compare it with the relevant parts of the original to get a feel for it.

If you can spend a little more time, you can assign a group of people to play the roles and do an activity like a post-recording session.

Books suitable for this activity

*Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, mentioned above, is one work many students welcome. Some Disney movies, such as *Aladdin*, are also suitable for this activity since you can read and compare the original Disney and non-Disney versions. Many students who know only the Disney versions of *The Little Mermaid*, *Rapunzel*, and *Beauty and the Beast* are surprised by how much the movie versions differ from the original stories.

(Text: Megumi Kobayashi)