

Week Six Assignment: Video Clips In the Classroom/Secretariat

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Video clips are a great way to lower stress and create a connection in your classroom. This week you will find a short video clip to use in your classroom. This can be any video clip that is appropriate. A clip from a movie, T.V. show, music video, sports event etc.

I chose a clip from the broadcast of Secretariat's historic run at the 1973 Belmont Stakes. The Belmont Stakes is the third and final leg of horseracing's Triple Crown. I used this clip because it was topical (the Kentucky Derby, the first leg in the Triple Crown ran last week), short, classic and exciting. I think the clip will hold the attention of students, promote learning and serve as a jumping off point for a conversation about horseracing in particular and competitive sports in general (do they have a favorite team or athlete? Have they ever witnessed such a dominating performance in another sport, either on television or in real life?, etc)..

This is for an advanced level class.

Discussion questions:

- 1) What do you know about horseracing?
- 2) How did the announcer impact your reaction to what was happening?
- 3) Why was everyone so excited?
- 4) Why do you think this race is famous?

I would assign two activities. In the first activity, I would play the first half of the race, stop the film at the half way point. I would ask students to name at least two horses and project the outcome of the race. I would rewind and play the start of the clip again so they can isolate the names of the horses. Once they have identified the horses and made their predictions, I would play the rest of the clip.

The second activity would be a short quiz in which students would be asked to name the sport, the horse, the race, the year of the race and the margin of victory.