

TAPESCRIPT

Narrator: Listening Test

Movie Debate: Dubbing vs Subtitles

Section 3

Adrian and Kathy continue to discuss whether subtitles are good for helping people to learn English.

The recording will be played twice. Do as much as you can the first time and answer all the questions the second time.

You have 30 seconds to look at your questions.

[30 sec music]

Listen and answer the questions.

[There is much more agreement this time in the discussion since both Kathy and Adrian are keen to find the best way forward in helping children to learn English, and are open to learning from each other about this.]

- {Rebecca: This is Rebecca Chiu and you are listening to ‘The Late Debate’. Tonight we have two guests, Kathy and Adrian, to talk about movies with dubbing or subtitles.
- Let’s think about using subtitles for learning English. If we want to learn English through watching English movies, should we use subtitles or not? Kathy, you’re an English teacher, what do you think?
- Kathy: Well, I suppose if someone watches a movie with no subtitles then they’re really getting immersed in the English language in an enjoyable way – and that has to be a good and important thing.
- Students in Hong Kong are not exposed to English very much. So watching movies is a good opportunity to do it in an interesting way.
- Adrian: I think what you’re saying is right, Kathy – anything we can do to get students interested in and exposed to English is a good thing.
- Kathy: *[Showing approval in her voice]* You don’t want to dub all movies, then, Adrian?
- Adrian: Well, that is a different issue. I think the advantage of using Chinese subtitles is that if there is anything they don’t understand in English, they can read the Chinese and understand. Then hopefully, they will be able to learn some new vocabulary, phrases, grammar or pronunciation.
- Kathy: Sure, there are some issues with that though –

TAPESCRIPT

Adrian: There are?

Kathy: Well, the danger is, of course, that the students stop listening to the movie altogether and just read the Chinese. It won't help them to learn English at all then.

Adrian: *[surprised]* That happens? Really?

Kathy: Well, this is the question. It depends on the level of English of the student, and the difficulty of the English in the movie.

Adrian: *[excited/animated]* There is a solution, though.

Kathy: There is?

Adrian: *[subtly excited]* Well, these days people can use English subtitles on DVDs. That way they can listen and read – they have two chances to understand.

Kathy: True, that's also a good option. Their reading skills can help to improve their listening skills. Their listening skills can help their reading skills. They can make a link between how English sounds and how it's written. Also, because they're watching a story about situations they can understand, they still learn some vocabulary and grammar.

Adrian: *[subtly excited]* Exactly!}}

Narrator: Now listen to the recording again.

[repeat recording { }]

You have 30 seconds to check your answers.

[30 sec music]

This is the end of Section 3.