Giraffe Fight Teacher's Notes

Video Giraffe Fight

- Tell students that they are going to listen to something with their eyes closed. After listening, they tell a partner about the images they visualized. Who did they see? Where? What were they doing? Why? etc. Play from 00:25 to 01:02 (sound only).
- 2. Students tell each other what they visualized in as much detail as possible. Ask a couple of students to tell the rest of the class what they talked about. Did most people have similar ideas?
- 3. Play the clip again, this time with both sound and images. Students (in pairs) answer the questions in step 1 based on what they saw. (Two male giraffes are going to fight over a female in the African desert.)
- 4. Tell students that they are going to read a description of the fight. Display or give them a copy of the script (p2). They read it quickly and say which word which is out of place.
- 5. Now they work together to replace the word banana** with another word (a different one for each banana).
- 6. Play the video from 01:05 to 03:23 so that students can compare what they wrote with the words used in the documentary. (rival, chance, blows, desert, fight, legs, reign)
- 7. Students vote on which giraffe will win the old bull or the young rival. Play the clip until 04:35 and ask how the the old giraffe won (He ducked and aimed a blow at his rival's underbelly). Tell students that the young giraffe didn't die; he was just knocked out.
- 8. Say that the clip comes from the first episode of the BBC series Africa, and encourage those who like nature programmes to look for more David Attenborough documentaries and watch them in English. If you have a class wiki, students can look for nature clips on YouTube, upload them and comment on each other's choices.

** The banana idea comes from this post about different ways to do a gap fill / cloze on David Petrie's blog.

http://teflgeek.net/2011/03/22/fifteen-different-ways-to-do-gapfills-cloze-tasks/

The old bull won't tolerate a banana. Pushing and shoving, they size each other up. The young rival seems to think he has a banana and attacks. The first few bananas usually settle things in such battles, but here the stakes are high. To lose means exile in the banana.

Neither will back down. As the banana intensifies, they change tactics. The young rival aims for the rump; the old bull targets his rival's bananas.

The old bull is down. Is this the end of his banana?