



YEAR TEN ENGLISH

Adaptations

ACEL 1566: Compare the purposes, text structures and language features of traditional and contemporary texts in different media.

ACELT 1641: Analyse and explain how text structures, language features and visual features of texts and the context in which texts are experienced may influence audience response.

When adapting a production, the writers, composers and directors have to consider many factors. What works in a novel may not work in a film, just as what works in a stage play may not work in a musical. For example, in the stage production of *Pygmalion*, the 'Ascot scene' takes place in Mrs. Higgins' house where as in both the musical and film versions of *My Fair Lady* the scene is set at the races.

Working in small groups, students complete the following tasks:

- Locate and read the 'Ascot Scene' in *Pygmalion*.
- Compare and contrast the way that language and visual features are used to portray character and theme across the three different texts.
- Using a think, pair, share or similar strategy, discuss the findings with another group.
- Choose another scene in *Pygmalion*.
- Identify the same scene in both the stage and film versions of *My Fair Lady*.
- Compare and contrast the way that language and visual features are used to portray character and theme across the three different texts.
- After completing the two analyses, as a group, discuss why you think Lerner and Loewe may have chosen to set the 'Ascot Scene' in a different geographical location to George Bernard Shaw.

Extension: locate a copy of Ovid's *Pygmalion and Galatea*. Compare and contrast the language of Ovid's tale with that of *My Fair Lady*. As a class discuss the similarities and differences that exist in relation to theme and character.