

The store – a new soap?

Aim To improve the use of language using House of Fraser as a backdrop to an outline for an episode for a new TV soap.

Preparation VIEW Retail must be pre-installed on a stand alone PC or network (where licensed). The activity could be undertaken by an individual or group of students.

Students will need some support in beginning their exploration of VIEW Retail. This can be achieved through a quick demonstration of by using the 'student guide' first. The students may also benefit from having access to maps on a printed sheet, to help them navigate around.

Students will need the attached student sheet with a pen or pencil, writing on the sheet or on another piece of paper.

Links to WRL English
Drama

Outcomes Improved skills with VIEW
Familiarisation with topic content in VIEW
Improved communication key skills

Pre activity Discuss the varied environment around the store including the wide range of people as employees and customers.

Some familiarisation with VIEW is necessary as the students need to look around the store.

Activity TV Soaps are usually based on 'places' familiar to ordinary members of the viewing public such as a 'street', a hotel, a community, etc. In the past there was a comedy series based on a retail store but never a 'soap'.

You have been asked to present an outline 'idea' for a soap based at a major retail store in London and you are using House of Fraser as a backdrop for some ideas.

Write an outline plot for one episode for a fictional soap based in a London store. You could base some of the characters in your episode on the employees you meet around the store (there are 21 of them). Your characters must be fictitious however so only use outline ideas from real people. The plot must reflect life in a real store though and present the store in a positive way.

Post activity Groups present their outline ideas and the ideas are voted on for the episode outline that will be used.

Extension activities Students write up a short story based on their outline
Students act out a scene in drama

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You will need...

You will need pen and paper to record your ideas and present your solution

The maps of each floor of the House of Fraser may help you record what you find and make it easier to locate it later.

You are the security guard located at the entrance to the House of Fraser store. Customers often come up to you and ask for directions to points around the store.

For each of these enquiries provide a simple suggestion to help the customer locate the place that they wish to find.

1. The lifts
2. Children's clothes
3. Men's shoes
4. Women's swimwear
5. Women's hairdressing salon
6. Luggage
7. Men's suites
8. Therapy
9. Customer service
10. Women's eveningwear