



Step 7: Endings with Impact

Richard Leigh – Filmmaker

Before watching Richard Leigh's interview, discuss what you know about using Step 7: Endings with Impact in informative writing.

Now watch the interview and use the following questions to prompt discussion as a whole class or in groups.

Discussion Questions

1. Why does Richard Leigh think great endings are so important in documentary filmmaking?
2. Does Richard always have an ending in mind when filming a documentary?
3. How does Richard go about finding a great ending to his films?
4. Why does Richard feel that making a documentary film is like a science experiment?
5. What does Richard feel makes a great ending to a documentary?
6. What role does the ending play in engaging the viewer's emotions?
7. What ending techniques does Richard use in his documentaries?
8. Did Richard mention any ending techniques that you hadn't heard of or used before?
9. Did Richard use any familiar techniques in a way that surprised you?
10. Did you get any ideas about how you could use particular techniques in your own writing? If so, what were they?

FOLLOW-ON ACTIVITY

Ask students to form small groups and pick a topic that they already know something about. Get students to brainstorm ideas on how they could engage the reader's emotions and make them think differently about that topic. Working individually, students pick their favourite idea and storyboard the ending to a documentary on their chosen topic (see 'Storyboarding' template on *Teacher Hub*).