



## **EPISODE 4: 1978: MIKE**

Unit focus: English

Year level: Years 3–6

### **EPISODE CLIP: PERFORMANCE CARS**

#### **ACTIVITY 1: CARS**

Subthemes: Language and scripting; Transport

The muscle cars of the 1960s and 1970s were flamboyant racing machines that attracted a large number of enthusiasts.

##### **Discover**

- In Episode 4, the young character Mike is very interested in cars 'with muscle'.
- Ask students to define what cars could be classed as muscle cars. Ask them to listen to the cars named in the first clip and compile a class list. For example MG; Kingswood; and 1971 Ford XB 351-GT may be included in the list. What does it all mean? To a car enthusiast, it all makes sense.
- As a class, discuss the information given in the clip as well as what students understand from the dialogue about the cars. Ask students to write their own definition of muscle cars and share this with the class.

##### **Reflect**

- Ask students to investigate the one of the muscle cars of the 1960s and 1970s, then write a persuasive editorial piece (with words and images) that includes the following elements:
  - 1 Why would they like to own this car?
  - 2 What are the main features of the car?
  - 3 What makes this car special?
- Students can present their editorial electronically using a publishing program, or on a small poster to share with the class.

##### **Download**

- Student Activity Sheet E4.1: Cars with muscle

#### **ACTIVITY 2: 'REV HEAD'**

Subthemes: Language and scripting; Transport

- There is specific vocabulary and many terms associated with muscle cars. Some of these are mentioned throughout the clip and the episode. These terms include carburettor; air filter; 'GT stripe'; 'She's ready to go!' and 'non-rev head'.



### Discover

- Brainstorm a class list of car-related terms. Ask each student to select ten words of interest, to find out their meaning and, if relevant, locate an image of the car part or car.

### Reflect

- Ask students to create a mini-dictionary of muscle car terms from the list. The mini-dictionary must include pictures and meanings relating to the term, or word. If possible develop this information into a website, and upload it to the school server.
- Start a blog to communicate with other students who may also be interested in muscle cars.

### Download

- Student Activity Sheet E4.2: Mini-dictionary of muscle car terms

## EPISODE 7: 1948: JEN

Unit focus: English

Year level: Years 3–6

### EPISODE CLIP: THE HOLDEN

#### ACTIVITY 4: THE FIRST HOLDEN

Subthemes: Relationships; Transport

### Discover

- As a class, discuss the role of the Holden car in this clip using the guiding questions below.
  - 1 What is the viewers' attention drawn to?
  - 2 What do viewers notice? Why?
  - 3 Do you think the car is important in this clip?
  - 4 Why or why not?
  - 5 How does the filmmaker ensure it is the salient object in the scene?
  - 6 What do you think the car symbolises?
- Discuss what information the car provides to the audience about its owner, the character Wal. Ask students to consider what the car informs the audience about Wal? Discuss the cost of cars and their rarity in these years when times were very tough for many people including Jen's family. Explain that Wal must be well off to have one of these new cars so quickly).
- Focus attention on what information about the car itself is shown in the clip, and then look at what other background information might help. Share and discuss the following extract from the *My Place* production notes below.

29 November, 1948: Ben Chifley unveils the first Holden, the 48-215 or FX Holden. It came in only four colours: Convoy Grey, Seine Blue, Gawler Cream or Black. Production rate was 10 [cars] a week. Cost, in dollars, was \$1,466, ie 94 times the average weekly wage of \$15.60.



- Ask students research this early Holden car in the library and online to find out more information.

### **Reflect**

- Ask students to work in small groups to design an advertising program for this car. They need to identify the car's best features to promote it. Explore the range of different advertisements, including print and radio, before setting students on the following tasks to apply their information.
- Ask students to design and create a print advertisement for the FX Holden using text and images to sell its features.
- Additionally, students can design and make a radio advertisement to sell the features of the car using sound only. What will the voice-over say? What sound effects will be important?

### **Download**

- Student Activity Sheet E7.4: Looking at interactions



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Activity Sheet E4.1  
Activity 1: Cars

Episode 4: 1978: Mike  
Clip: Performance cars

## Cars with muscle

The muscle cars of the 1960s and 1970s were flamboyant racing machines that attracted a large community of enthusiasts.

1 What is meant by the term 'muscle car'?

\_\_\_\_\_

2 Compile a list of muscle car names such as MG; Kingswood; and 1971 Ford XB 351-GT.

\_\_\_\_\_

3 Investigate the muscle cars of this era and write a persuasive editorial piece (with words and images) including the following elements:

- a Why would you like to own one of these cars?
- b What are their main features?
- c What makes these cars special?

Present your editorial using a publishing program, or on a small poster to share with the class.



### **Mini-dictionary of muscle car terms**

Using words and terms from the list compiled during your classroom discussion create a mini-dictionary of muscle car terms from the list. The mini-dictionary must include pictures and meanings relating to the term, or word. Below is a template for one page of your mini- dictionary.

Word
Meaning



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Activity Sheet E7.4  
Activity 4: The first Holden

Episode 7: 1948: Jen  
Clip: The Holden

### Looking at interactions

- 1 Watch the clip and describe the relationship between the characters below. Cite evidence to support your conclusion:

Characters	Relationship	Observations
Jen and Kath		
Jen and Wal		
Wal and Kath		

- 2 Draw a diagram that shows the inter-relationships between the three characters, Jen, Kath and Wal.