

Title:	Using subtitles for supported listening
Brief description of clip	In this extract from the movie Amélie, proverbs are used in order to test the reliability of her suitor. The subtitles provide a scaffold for this intensive listening activity.
Difficulty rating (easy/intermediate/complex)	Intermediate- complex
Recommended CEFR level	B2+
Technical details	<p>This extract is taken from a commercially produced movie and used for learning under the Fair Use exceptions for educational purposes. Extracting a file from a DVD is usually not allowed under copyright law. The recording (usually zipped in an ISO wrapper) contains additional information including the subtitle tracks. Extraction, processing and editing can be complex and several tools may be needed. In this example we used the free video editing software Freemake and an open source video transcoder Handbrake. The subtitles were contained in an .srt file and there may be multiple .srt files for each clip. .srt is a basic text file but some recordings use vobsub. You can locate files for many commercial recordings from sites such as Subscene.</p> <p>Creating your own subtitles for a video clip can be a challenging and useful activity for language learners. Synchronising the playback of the subtitles with the recording can be a challenge!</p>
Suggestions (preparation/pre and post activities)	<p>In this example, the learner's attention should be drawn to comparing the subtitles to the recording. There are differences between what you read and what you hear. Encourage students to think why this is the case. This is a good opportunity to explore the skills involved in subtitling.</p> <p>Creating subtitles for a short clip is a very engaging and fun way to build language skills. This can be done in pairs using simple programmes such as Windows Live Movie Maker and adding captions. Adding .srt file to a movie clip increases the accessibility and may support listening comprehension.</p>
Ideas for application in different contexts	<p>Community projects to crowdsource translations for subtitles are increasing and may be of interest to those with bilingual students, see the TedX project below.</p> <p>Comparing subtitling files can be an interesting activity for those</p>

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	<p>with an interest in translation or interpreting. The files have to be synchronised to fit the action and be readable as the scene plays and so some decisions have to be made about how to express the soundtrack so that it fits the action. These are significant skills for those working in these areas.</p>
Useful links	<p>Freemake</p> <p>Handbrake Handbrake tutorial</p> <p>Subscene Vobsub</p> <p>Format factory</p> <p>Adding subtitles to a video clip: tutorial</p> <p>How to make it as a freelance subtitler</p> <p>TedX translation project: https://www.ted.com/participate/translate/guidelines#h2--subtitling</p> <p>https://www.ted.com/participate/translate/get-started</p>