Using Video Clips in your Classroom

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YouTube: “Every Meeting You’ve Ever Been To (In 2 Minutes)/ Fast Company January 14, 2016

I chose this video clip for my corporate trainees as an ice breaker in my “Unspoken Business English” course. Fast Company is a business media brand with a YouTube channel that provides editorials on business culture, technology, and leadership. Although this video clip is fast paced, a transcript is provided for reference, to be utilized after the initial viewing. It’s an office insider scenario that most people can relate to regardless of the spoken language. This video provides witty examples of what people are probably thinking when they say polite general remarks in a meeting.

After the initial viewing, I would ask the following questions:

- What was this video about?
- Can you relate to this video? Does this happen in your company?
- Are these remarks similar in Korean? What other remarks have you heard and what do you think are their real thoughts?

After discussing the video as a class, I would put the class into pairs and have them plan out a script. Similar to the video, one person would make a generic remark and the other person would provide a real life interpretation of that remark. In another activity, I would arrange the class into groups of four where person 1 would make a generic remark; person 2 would provide an actual

interpretation; person 3 would make a generic response to that general remark; and person 4 would provide an actual interpretation of that response. For example:

Person 1: Sorry I'm late; I was finishing up another meeting.

Person 2: Sorry I ran late because the other meeting was more important than this meeting.

Person 3: No problem, take your time. We can start whenever you're ready.

Person 4: You totally wasted our time so you need to make this meeting quick.