



# El cortometraje

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Presentation and Handout can be found at:  
<http://castlecortos.weebly.com/>

## Goals:

- For newbies: To investigate the use of cortometrajes in the Spanish classroom to engage students with authentic Spanish language narratives and speech patterns.
- For veterans: add some new films to your class repertoire.
- For anyone: there are many films on this list that are great, and not just for our students.



# Why Cortometrajes?

- My personal experience with them in the classroom.
- Authentic material that's engaging for our students
- Quick consumption
- Listening to real speed, syntax and prosody of the language



## Cortometrajes - classroom implementation

- Lack of awareness
- Hesitation
- No time





## **Cortometraje as an Authentic Resource**

- Mimicking consuming the language as a Spanish speaker would
- Listening to speech in real time
- Cultural awareness: there is amazing art being done in the Spanish language



## **Cortometraje as quick consumption**

-The shortest cortometraje on the list is about 1 minute, the longest about 18 minutes. Cortometrajes allow for students to consume an entire authentic Spanish language product very quickly.

-Not a huge time commitment like a feature length film.

-Similar benefits to those of the short story in the classroom. Students have no time to disengage.

## Cortometrajes as listening agent

-Meaningful

-Access to native speaker  
rhythm, speed, word choices

-How often do we  
incorporate real speech  
patterns into our lessons?



**Chris Stolz** ▶ iFLT/ NTPRS/ CI Teaching

August 2 at 1:14pm · 🌐

Me in Canada: "ya I can speak Spanish so good I even wrote a book in it"  
[goes to Mexico]

Mexicans: "puésapurensecabrónespaqueandemosachupar"

Me: Yo. Soy. De. Ca.Na.Da.



You and 182 others

28 Comments



Haha



Comment





## Should I use subtitles?

- Teacher decision
- depends on desired outcome
- Advantages and Disadvantages

Do you want us to be boyfriends?





## Subtitles -L2 audio with L1 text

- As part of the process of falling in love with a language or culture.
- As motivation to acquire more of the language.
- To ensure full comprehension of the plot before re-watching without subtitles or with TL subtitles.
- To enjoy content so fascinating that you don't care how much help you need to understand what is going on.

Graciously stolen from Justin Slocum Bailey's Indwelling Language Blog



## No subtitles

- Obviously our end goal as language teachers, what we're shooting for
- Typically problematic for intermediate speakers without lots of previewing and teacher guiding
- Can be ideal for a rewatch. Watch once with subtitles, the second time without
- Also valuable to watch first, then again with the L1 subtitles.



## **Cortometrajes - Previewing**

- Activating prior knowledge
- Getting to know the characters before viewing
- Predict the story from images
- The students ask questions from images

## Cortometrajes - Post viewing

- Retell
- React
- Rewatch
- Other activities from the packet





## **The cortometrajes that made the list**

- Dialogue/Monologue in Spanish
- Getting students to try to 'feel' something: fear, frustration, sadness, joy
- Short- all are less than about 15 minutes
- Easily accessible- YouTube, Vimeo, free

# Los gritones

1. Estás en el techo de un edificio muy grande. Puedes ver toda la ciudad. ¿Qué vas a gritar?
2. ¿Qué gritan? ¿El hombre?  
¿La mujer?
3. Al final la mujer no responde.  
¿Porqué?

Thanks to Roberto Perez Toledo for letting me show *Los gritones*



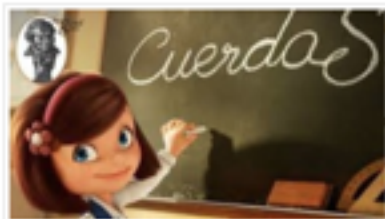
# Cuerdas

1. ¿Cuáles son las características de una persona positiva? ¿Eres tú una persona positiva? ¿Por qué?
2. ¿Cuáles son los juegos que jugabas durante el recreo?
3. Escribe algunas de las maneras en que María ayuda a Nicolás.
4. Describe tus sentimientos al ver el final del cortometraje.
5. Aprendemos Juntos Blog Activities





## Dictado



Escucha el audio del dictado.

Escribe lo que escuchas en tu papel.

Haz un dibujo de las oraciones que escribiste.

Contesta las preguntas que están al final del dictado.



Dictado - Mini examen

## Gramática

Practica los complementos directos

Mini examen de los complementos directos

## Practica Auditiva o Escrita



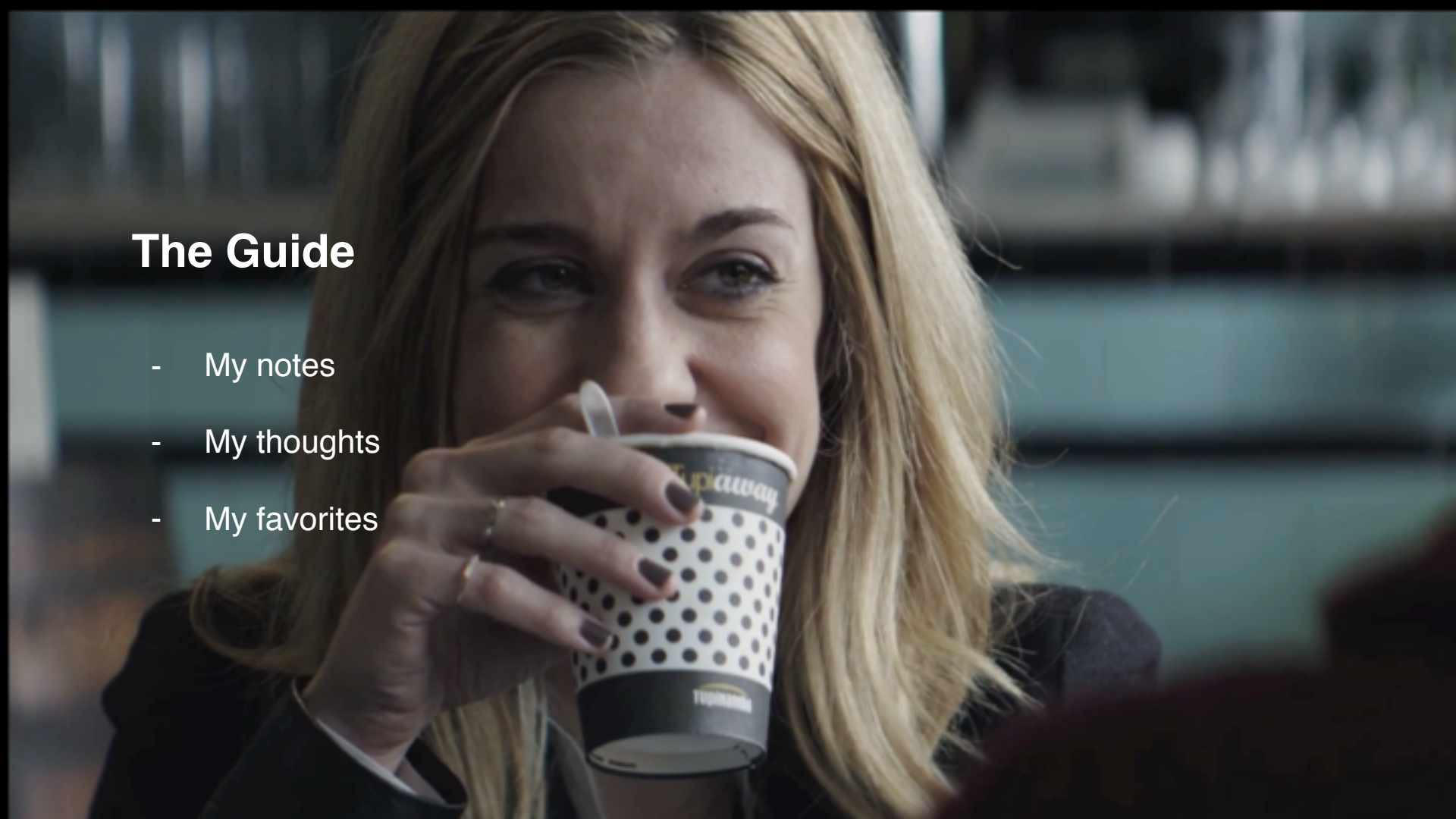
# Dulce

1. En tu opinión ¿qué es el amor?
2. Describe el juego que juegan alrededor de la mesa. ¿Cuáles son los deseos de los personajes?
3. ¿Crees que esta película es verdaderamente dulce? ¿Por qué?



# The Guide

- My notes
- My thoughts
- My favorites





## **Cortometraje as a unit of study**

- Perfect for seniors after spring break or after the AP Exam
- Watch some or all of the cortometrajes on the list
- Have students make their own over a couple of weeks
- Have a film fest. Vote on awards like best actor, best director, best picture