

Theme: Postcolonialism - Filmanalyse

Text: *Bend it like Beckham* book extract (Narinder Dhani) / screenshots from Gurinder Chadha's movie

QPR weren't about to give up, though. They fought hard, and there were several near misses. The second half was just as close. By the eighty-fifth minute, I was beginning to think that we'd be playing extra time to decide the tournament winners. But, as it happened, I was wrong.

Jules slotted the ball through to me, and I set off at a run, weaving in and out of the QPR defenders, who were getting tired. I was on the edge of the box when I suddenly felt my ankles chopped from underneath me. "Ow!" I yelled, tumbling over on to the grass as the ref blew his whistle.

One of the defenders had floored me with a late tackle. Now we had a free kick, right on the edge of the box. The perfect place for a Beckham special.

Jules grinned at me. "It's yours, Jess," she said.

10 The ref was pointing at the spot where the ball had to go. I placed it carefully, then took a few steps backwards. I took a deep breath and looked down at the ball, then up at the QPR wall.

But in my mind, the QPR players had vanished. Instead there stood Mum, three old aunties and Pinky in her wedding suit. They were all shaking their heads at me and looking disapproving.

But I wasn't going to let them put me off. I blinked a few times, and they disappeared. *This was it.*

15 I took a short run, and hit the edge of the ball with my inside right foot. It flew exactly where I wanted it to go, which was round the side of the wall without being deflected by any of the QPR players. Then it curved sweetly past the goalie. She flung herself sideways in a vain attempt to reach it, but it dipped over her head and into the net just below the crossbar. I could hardly believe it.

I'd bent it just like Beckham. It was my best shot ever. 335

Annotations: 3 QPR- Queens Park Rangers (London)

Assignments:

1. Place the scene within the dramatic development of *Bend it Like Beckham*. [Context / Orientation]
2. On the basis of the screenshots, analyse the film devices (including camera positions and body language) the director uses to convey the emotional thrust of the scene. [Analysis]
3. Comment on the symbolism that is associated with the first screenshot. In your answer you should consider how Jesminder's experiences mirror the situation of ethnic Indians living in Great Britain. [Evaluation]

Screenshot 1:



Screenshot 2:



Screenshot 3:



Screenshot 4:

