

Learner's purpose: To answer questions about a film

Audience: Teacher

### Whale Rider – film questions

1. At the start of the film, what does the director show us about the relationship between Koro and Pai? How does she show this?

① ② The **cross-cut** from Pai's birth to Koro giving Pai a ride on his bike. This shows they have a good relationship now, but Koro is still sad underneath. He really wanted a boy.

2. How does the director show that Pai is the next leader for the tribe?

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1. Her name  
2. The special things she does. Like finding Koro's necklace.

3. Describe how the director uses a motif throughout the film. Why is this motif significant?

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WHALE = represents leadership.  
1. On the wharenui  
2. Opening scene  
3. Stranded whales on beach  
4. Pai riding the whale into the sea.

4. When Pai gives her speech at the school, what does the director show us about the relationship between Koro and Pai? How does she show this?

It is broken. Koro is not there. The

② **close-up** shot of Pai's face shows that she is crying and struggling to give her speech.

① Koro's empty chair.