Learning outcomes

R1 Read texts with fluency, understanding and competence, decoding groups of words/phrases and not just single words
W5 Engage with and learn from models of oral and written language use to enrich their own written work

1. **Read the following review of the film** *Bend it like Beckham* **written by** Peter Bradshaw **and published in the** *Guardian* **newspaper and answer the questions that follow:**

Gurinder Chadha's third film is an undemanding, unambitious comedy about Jess (Parminder K Nagra), a soccer-mad teenage girl who outrages her traditional Indian family by idolising Becks and playing football in a local all-female team. It's entertaining, feelgood stuff, with mahogany cameos from Gary Lineker, Alan Hansen and John Barnes (though sadly the squeaky-voiced Greatest Living Englishman is represented only by a mute lookalike.) But loads of the culture-clash gags and situations now look very familiar from TV's Goodness Gracious Me, and indeed from Chadha's own work. Her movie is pretty superficial compared to say East Is East, or Billy Elliot, or especially Mira Nair's Monsoon Wedding, which all tackle similar themes, and in which comedy co-exists with power and originality. Those are Premiership films - and Chadha's is in Nationwide Division One. She could raise her game.

(i) The reviewer is quite critical of the film *Bend it like Beckham*. In your own words, describe **three** negative points he makes about the film.

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(ii) Having watched *Bend it like Beckham*, do you agree/disagree with the points made by the reviewer? Explain your answer.

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2. Write your own short review of *Bend it like Beckham*, or another film of your choice, in the style of the above review by Peter Bradshaw.

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