

Related Material – Episode of *Black Books*: “Blood” from Series 2

The episode **satirises** notions surrounding both the global and the local. Simplistic binaries aren't true in this text.

What paradigms have shaped and are reflected in the text?

What values are inscribed in, and reflected by, the text?

What does it challenge?

How does the style of the text contribute to its overall meaning?

★ absurdist style:
- characters, visual
- exaggeration

Find quotes, symbols and textual examples and make notes below:

LOCAL	GLOBAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Smaller can work for the individual despite pressures to compete. ★ Family can use ★ Grand narratives may not work for the mini narratives it is being imposed upon → kitchen disaster, food poisoning ★ Culture being exploited → it's okay to drink w/ right hand because Fran has a car ★ Manny's 'information' (i) led Fran to disaster → can local fix global imposed issues on their own? ★ "My friends are my family" ★ Manny entering the store and exits confused with various consumer items → "I walked in and I instantly bought 116£ worth of books, all because it was so nice in there" ★ "no one needs sofas that eat you! No one needs information points! → mini narrative conflicting with grand narrative → antiestablishment, counter-culture → TNC's, materialism + consumerism - invading mini narratives ★ "I'm a big cloud of 'dunno'" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ haggling vs smaller nations ★ "I'm a big cloud of 'dunno'" ★ "I keep buying things to cheer myself ^{up} out" → materialism, consumerism ★ "What we really need is to be more like them" - order, conformity ★ Bigger is better! → paradigms ★ Family is important and honest! ★ <u>ĩ symbol</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global giving out these 'grand narratives + paradigms ★ fitting needs of everyone (combining the book store, restaurants, coffee) → disintegration of 'state sovereignty' → integration - global - if one fails, it all fails → failed kitchen = going back to just "Black Books" ★ Fran filling the void - search for identity "I got roots! I Don't need you!" ★ Lack restraint in kitchen → out of control ★ Customer care code - regulates behaviour

- ★ Fran searching for roots + family - culture
- ★ Family is a stereotype of 'cultural'
- ★ Fran - displacement

- ★ Stars of achievement
 - band aid?
 - external items making you feel better

Writing Task:

Discuss how *Black Books* demonstrates many of the ideas implicit in the Navigating the Global elective. In your response, refer specifically to the text and ways of thinking you have encountered in your study thus far.

Length: 750 words.

3 pages