



---

# Rising Trend: Vertical Microdramas Captivate Audiences

## Description

LOS ANGELES — Inside Dr. Self Tape's studio, Joseph Harold works on a camera. He is making sure everything looks good.

Joseph and his brother Joel started this studio to help actors make auditions and self-tapes. Now, they are making something new: vertical micro-dramas.

Vertical micro-dramas are short videos made to be watched on phones. They are popular in Asia and are starting to be popular in the U.S.

"This is a big chance for filmmakers," Harold said. "We have been making films for ten years."

Joseph's new project shows the funny parts of auditions. He knows this world well from his studio.

"I spend a lot of time on the phone. It's easier to watch short videos like these," he said.

Many big studios are still figuring out this new style of storytelling. But small filmmakers are growing.

City Council member Bob Blumenfield wants Los Angeles to support these new creators. He says the city needs to keep its film industry strong.

"We should help micro-drama creators stay in Los Angeles," he said. "This is the next wave in entertainment."

---

## Vocabulary List:

1. **Vertical** /'vɜːr.tɪ.kəl/ (adjective): Upright; oriented in a direction that is perpendicular to the ground.
2. **Micro-drama** /'maɪ.krəʊ 'drɑː.mə/ (noun): A very short dramatic video designed for viewing on mobile devices.
3. **Auditions** /ɔː'dɪʃ.ənz/ (noun): Tryouts for a role in a film or theater where actors perform for judges.
4. **Filmmakers** /'fɪlmmeɪkərz/ (noun): People who produce or direct films.
5. **Creators** /kri'eɪ.tərz/ (noun): Individuals who bring new ideas products or works of art into existence.
6. **Storytelling** /'stɔːrɪ,tɛlɪŋ/ (noun): The act of narrating or presenting a story often through various forms of media.

## Comprehension Questions



---

## Multiple Choice

1. Who works on a camera inside Dr. Self Tape's studio?
  - Option: Joseph Harold
  - Option: Joel Harold
  - Option: Bob Blumenfield
  - Option: Ratan Naval Tata
  
2. What type of videos are Joseph and Joel starting to make in their studio?
  - Option: Vertical micro-dramas
  - Option: Feature films
  - Option: Documentaries
  - Option: Music videos
  
3. Where are vertical micro-dramas intended to be watched?
  - Option: On phones
  - Option: On TVs
  - Option: In cinemas
  - Option: On computers
  
4. How long have Joseph and Joel been making films?
  - Option: Ten years
  - Option: Twenty years
  - Option: Five years
  - Option: Fifteen years
  
5. According to Joseph, what is easier to watch on the phone?
  - Option: Short videos
  - Option: Feature-length films
  - Option: TV series
  - Option: Live streams
  
6. Who wants Los Angeles to support the new micro-drama creators?
  - Option: Bob Blumenfield
  - Option: Joseph Harold
  - Option: Joel Harold
  - Option: Dr. Self Tape



---

**True-False**

7. Joseph and Joel are experienced filmmakers who have been making films for a decade.
8. Vertical micro-dramas are currently popular only in the U.S.
9. City Council member Bob Blumenfield believes that supporting micro-drama creators will strengthen the film industry in Los Angeles.
10. Small filmmakers are struggling to adapt to the new style of storytelling.
11. Joseph spends a lot of time watching feature-length films on his phone.
12. The new wave in entertainment, according to Bob Blumenfield, is micro-drama creation.

**Gap-Fill**

13. Joseph and his brother Joel started the studio to help actors make auditions and self-tapes. Now, they are making \_\_\_\_\_: vertical micro-dramas.
14. Many big studios are still figuring out this new style of storytelling. But small filmmakers are \_\_\_\_\_.
15. According to Joseph, it is easier to watch short videos on the phone because \_\_\_\_\_.
16. City Council member Bob Blumenfield wants Los Angeles to support these new creators to keep \_\_\_\_\_ strong.
17. Bob Blumenfield believes that supporting micro-drama creators is important because it is \_\_\_\_\_.
18. Dr. Self Tape's studio is focused on helping actors with \_\_\_\_\_ and self-tapes.



## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Joseph Harold 2. Vertical micro-dramas 3. On phones 4. Ten years 5. Short videos  
6. Bob Blumenfield

**True-False:** 7. True 8. False 9. True 10. False 11. False 12. True

**Gap-Fill:** 13. something new 14. growing 15. it is easier to watch short videos on the phone 16. its film industry 17. the next wave in entertainment 18. auditions

## Vocabulary quizzes

### Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )

1. What aspect of a play or movie involves the actors portraying their roles?

Option: Challenging

Option: Exciting

Option: Suspense

Option: Characters

2. Which element of a story keeps the audience on edge wanting to know what happens next?

Option: Memorable

Option: Suspense

Option: Drama

Option: Closure

3. What genre typically involves conflicts emotions and intense storytelling?

Option: Awards

Option: Drama

Option: Exciting

Option: Produced

4. What word can describe an engaging and thrilling performance or storyline?

Option: Theatrical

Option: Community

Option: Available

Option: Exciting

5. Who are the personalities that drive the events in a narrative?

Option: Boost

Option: Characters

Option: Opportunities



---

Option: Performing

6. What recognitions are given to outstanding performances or productions?

- Option: Tourists
- Option: Vertical
- Option: Awards
- Option: Micro-drama

7. What can arise from participating in auditions or being part of a production team?

- Option: Filmmakers
- Option: Opportunities
- Option: Creators
- Option: Storytelling

8. What term is used to describe the creation and realization of a play or film?

- Option: Challenging
- Option: Produced
- Option: Venue
- Option: Performing

9. What process involves individuals demonstrating their acting skills for a role?

- Option: Venue
- Option: Exciting
- Option: Auditions
- Option: Boost

10. What art form involves conveying narratives through various mediums?

- Option: Economy
- Option: Storytelling
- Option: Tourists
- Option: Nominations

**Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

11. Local theaters play a vital role in bringing the \_\_\_\_\_ together through shared cultural experiences.

12. The final act of a play provides a sense of \_\_\_\_\_ to the audience by resolving the storylines.



13. The choice of \_\_\_\_\_ can greatly impact the atmosphere and success of a production.
14. Short and intense performances known as \_\_\_\_\_ are gaining popularity among modern audiences.
15. Participating in local productions can help \_\_\_\_\_ the economy by attracting tourists and visitors.
16. The talented actress was \_\_\_\_\_ for her outstanding performance in the leading role.
17. The upcoming theater season promises a lineup of \_\_\_\_\_ new plays and musicals.
18. Actors and musicians thrive on the energy of a live audience when \_\_\_\_\_ on stage.
19. Cultural events and performances are attractive to \_\_\_\_\_ looking for unique experiences.
20. Winning prestigious \_\_\_\_\_ can elevate the status of actors and directors in the industry.

**Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

21. The innovative set design featured a tall imposing structure on stage.
22. The experimental play incorporated elaborate costumes and dramatic lighting effects.
23. The visionary directors and writers are the of compelling stories and scripts.
24. The high-energy opening number set the tone for an performance.
25. Tickets for the popular show were not due to sold-out performances.
26. Portraying a complex character with conflicting emotions was a role for the actor.
27. The emotional final scene left a impression on the audience.
28. The intense conflict and emotional tension captured the essence of the classic genre.



29. The prestigious award ceremony announced the list of for outstanding performances.

30. The skilled worked tirelessly behind the scenes to bring the play to life.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Performance 2. Suspense 3. Drama 4. Exciting 5. Characters 6. Awards 7. Opportunities 8. Produced 9. Auditions 10. Storytelling

**Gap-Fill:** 11. Community 12. Closure 13. Venue 14. Micro-drama 15. Boost 16. Nominated 17. Exciting 18. Performing 19. Tourists 20. Awards

**Matching sentence:** 1. Vertical 2. Theatrical 3. Creators 4. Exciting 5. Available 6. Challenging 7. Memorable 8. Drama 9. Nominations 10. Producers

## CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL1

### Date Created

2026/01/18

### Author

aimeeyoung99

ESL-NEWS.COM