

KEY OF LIFE DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. In addition to its strong comedic elements, **KEY OF LIFE** strives to make a statement about identity in the modern world. Describe various items seen (or heard) throughout the film that speak to the true nature of each character's identity.
2. A "red herring" is a term often used in film when describing a plot device or object that intentionally misleads both characters in the film and viewers alike. What do you believe to be the major red herring in this film? What other red herrings did you notice?
3. How does your understanding of the main characters (Sakurai, Kondo and Kanae) change as the story progresses? Describe in relation to the motif "all is not as it seems".
4. A reflexive film is defined by its ability to make audiences aware of the filmmaking process, whether directly or indirectly. How can **KEY OF LIFE** be seen as a reflexive film?
5. Though they are meant to make audiences laugh, do you believe comedic films have the ability to make more of an emotional impact than some dramatic films? Does **KEY OF LIFE** accomplish this in any way? If so, discuss particular scenes which support this idea.