

# East is East

- What different ways does the film employ to illustrate the intertwining of cultures?
- To what extent can you detect a bias towards one of the two cultures in the way the film tells its story?
- How does the film show different kinds of prejudice in different situations?
- Do you think it is justified to call *East is East* a comedy? Which scenes do you consider humorous, and which ones seem to belong to a different genre altogether?
- How do certain elements of the filming technique contribute to your impression of the genre?
- What role does music play in the film?
- What role does setting play? (Think of the street where the Khans live, the house interior, Bradford...)
- How do the different characters in the film express emotions? What emotions do they express in what situations?
- How does the film portray the longstanding relationship between a Pakistani husband and his British wife?
- How does the film illustrate the different types of relationships within the family (father and children, mother and children, siblings)?
- The film can be said to deal not only with a clash of cultures, but also with class distinctions. What scenes might this refer to, and how is this class distinction made apparent by filming techniques?
- How does the film deal with gender? Think of the two women in the Khan family as well as the woman they visit in Bradford whose daughter married a Pakistani man.
- What is the function of the characters outside the Khan family? Which of these characters is most memorable to you? Why?
- The writer says that *East is East* is basically a film about his childhood and his family. How does the film show that particular perspective on the events in many scenes, if not all of them?
- The film deals with events that took place in the 1970s, i. e. about three decades before its production and appearance. What do you think made it so successful? What would be different if it was about today's multicultural Britain?