

Brief synopsis of the film

This film (released in 2005) was directed by Til Schweiger, who also plays one of the lead characters. It is the story of Nick, who stumbles from one job to the next, trying to avoid having to rely on the help of his wealthy stepfather and brother. While working in a psychiatric clinic, Nick meets Leila who suffers from a post-traumatic stress disorder but is desperate to leave the clinic. Together they embark on a road trip that will change their lives

This is a romantic comedy which covers topics such as family relationships and problems, love, mental health and personal responsibilities. As such, it fits in naturally with the AS topic 'Being a young person in German-speaking society'.

	Description of activity and suggested uses	Skills covered
Activity 1	<p>Students watch the trailer of the film and decide when the depicted scenes take place in relation to Nick stealing the car.</p> <p>This would be a good starter activity after having watched the film for the first time to help students remember the plot and to introduce some vocabulary necessary for discussing the film.</p>	<p>Students use their listening and reading skills to recall the plot of the film and familiarise themselves with some vocabulary related to this film.</p> <p>A possible extension activity might be to ask students to retell the story of the film within 1-2 minutes (in order to use the vocabulary).</p>

<p>Activity 2</p>	<p>For this exercise, students watch the scene where Leila tries to commit suicide and Nick saves her life. Students write a short piece reflecting upon the significance of this scene for the development of the story. A help button is available, which provides students with some pointers on what they might want to consider when answering the question. However, students should be encouraged to come up with their own individual responses, as long as they can back up their ideas with the plot of the film.</p> <p>This activity lends itself to individual work. However, students could also work in pairs and produce an answer together.</p> <p>A printing tool is available whereby students can submit their work to the teacher for feedback.</p>	<p>Students have opportunities to develop their analysis, creativity, assimilation and writing skills.</p>
<p>Activity 3</p>	<p>Students have to read the additional information provided by clicking on the “i” button (top right). Then, they select a character and write a short piece explaining the influence of Nick on each of the chosen characters.</p> <p>This activity can be easily adapted and developed further by teachers, by choosing other characters.</p> <p>Once checked by the teacher and corrected, this print-out can be a very effective tool for further discussion, study or revision.</p>	<p>Taking one of the central characters in the film, Nick, students will evaluate his impact on different characters, the structure and timeline of the film. Reading, writing and analytical skills are developed with this exercise.</p>