

Brief synopsis of the film

Twelve-years-old and small for his age, he's a hardened street boy who spends more time playing chicken on the local railway tracks than at home with his family. After new boy Alfredo (Pablo Galán) befriends him at school, though, El Bola discovers that there's more to life than the beatings his father regularly inflicts on him.

By capturing the fledgling machismo of these boys (pinching cigarettes, flicking through porn magazines, playing suicidal games on the train tracks), Mañas brings us right into the heart of this story's focus on masculinity and violence, mapping out the tragedy of El Bola's family situation with precision.

This is a film that explores themes like friendship, family relations, communication, the generational gap, the two Spains, prejudice, social stigma, youth trends and issues and death.

Adapted from: http://www.bbc.co.uk/gloucestershire/films/reviews/a_f/el_bola_pellet.shtml

	Description of activity and suggested uses	Skills covered
Activity 1	Students become aware of the structure of the film by watching the clip and deciding whether the events on the cards happen before or after the scene	Listening reading and writing skills are developed, as well as deeper knowledge of the plot.
Activity 2	Students watch the clip and discuss the analysis question. Then they can type their comments in the box, print it out and hand it in to the teacher for feedback.	Listening, speaking, reading, writing and analytical skills are developed.
Activity 3	Students discuss the effect on the plot and other characters as they click through the images. They can type their comments and print them out. Students need to read the pop up information.	Listening, speaking, reading, writing and analytical skills are developed.