

Brief synopsis of the film

This film (released in 2013) is based on Alina Bronsky's book by the same name (2008). It is the story of 17-year-old Sascha, a bright young woman, who lives in an area of high-risers on the outskirts of Stuttgart, which is dominated by problems of social deprivation. Sascha's dreams are to take revenge on her stepfather for killing her mother and to write a book about her mother. When she meets Volker and his son Felix, a whole new world of middle-class living opens up to her. We follow Sascha, as she confronts her demons and tries to follow her dreams and ambitions.

This is a coming-of-age story which covers topics such as family, friendship, grief, anger, the life of migrants and social divides in Germany. As such, it fits in naturally with the AS topic 'Being a young person in German-speaking society' and prepares students for the A2 topic 'Diversity and difference' (although this is not the main focus of this film).

	Description of activity and suggested uses	Skills covered
Activity 1	<p>Students recall basic information about one of the main characters of the film – Volker. They read questions about him and decide which answers match each question.</p> <p>This activity could easily be extended by asking (groups of) students to compile similar questions and answers about other characters in the film and use their work as an activity for the whole class.</p>	<p>Students use their reading skills and revise/develop some basic vocabulary which is relevant for the film. An obvious revision point would be question words.</p>

Activity 2	<p>In this activity, students have to think about the effect of one of the key scenes in the film on different characters. There are prompts for them to respond to.</p> <p>It can easily be adapted to other scenes in the film.</p>	<p>Students use their analytical and writing skills to complete this task. It will be necessary for them to have some topic-specific vocabulary for this film.</p>
Activity 3	<p>Students write their views without the support of the bullet points.</p> <p>There is a print button for students to submit their work to their teacher for feedback. Teacher's feedback will ensure students are moving forward.</p> <p>This activity can be further discussed orally, and it can be applied to any character in the film.</p> <p>Students could also be encouraged to write a similar text, as the one provided for Volker, for other characters.</p>	<p>This activity offers learners an opportunity to expand their understanding of the film, by writing a short response. This time, there is no scaffolding, so students will have to compose a structured response without help.</p>