

**CLASS DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION:** higher grades, 6th grade

**COURSE:** Croatian language

**TEACHING AREA:** Culture and media

**TEACHING UNIT:** *Summer Reading*

**CLASS TYPE:** Analysis of a short fiction film

**DURATION OF A TEACHING UNIT:** 45 minutes

## ***SUMMER READING*** (Šipan Summer Film School, Šipan, 2020)

### **MOTIVATION**

Conversation with the students

1. How do you spend your summer holidays?
2. Do your parents give you any responsibilities or let you relax?
3. How would you spend your summer holidays if your parents weren't controlling you and holding you back? What would you do? Where would you go? Who would you hang out with? What would you eat?

### **THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FILM**

You will watch a short film *Summer Reading* produced by Šipan Summer Film School.

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR WATCHING**

Pay attention to the beginning and the end of the film.

What filmic means of expression emphasize the atmosphere of Mediterranean summer and refer to that season?

What kind of shots of the town prevail after the girl wakes up and looks for her parents? What is emphasized by such shots and why are they used? Who is missing in these shots?

What is the music like in the film?

What is seen and heard during the end credits?

Highlight the elements of a fiction film.

### **WATCHING OF THE FILM**

### **EXPRESSION OF STUDENT IMPRESSIONS**

Did you like the film? Why?

How similar are the situations from the film to your everyday life?

Which part of the film did you find the most fun?

What is this film's message?

### ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE FILM

**1. How does the film start? What do we see and what do we hear?**

In the first shots, a seaside town is shown, and we hear non-diegetic music.

**2. What kinds of shots are used? Why are these shots used?**

Extreme wide shots that are used to place the narrative in a certain town.

**3. What follows after these introductory shots?**

The title of the film follows - *Summer Reading*.

**4. What is the name of the part of the film that announces the theme or place of the action, and appears before the title of the film?**

Pre-credits.

**5. Which filmic means of expression emphasize the atmosphere of Mediterranean summer and refer to that season?**

The shots of the seaside town that are constantly changing, the noises of crickets, the screenplay that mentions swimming and the costume design because the characters are dressed in light summer clothes.

**6. What kind of shot is the girl in when the mother comes out of the room? Why is that kind of shot used and what is emphasized with it?**

She is in a close-up shot that is usually used to emphasize emotions; in this case the girl is annoyed because her mother insists on her finishing her summer reading.

**7. How is the passing of time from the evening to the morning shown? What are the shots and the transitions like?**

The first shot is a wide shot of the sunset over the sea, then there's a fade out and a fade in into a shot of a backyard in the morning.

**8. What kinds of shots of the city prevail after the girl wakes up and searches for her parents? What is emphasized by those shots and why are they used? Who is missing in those shots?**

Wide shots that emphasize there are no more adults in the town prevail.

**9. What is the music like in those shots?**

Non-diegetic melancholy music that also indicates something has changed.

**10. What happens after the children figure out the adults have disappeared?**

They buy sweets, go on a boat trip, eat the food they like, go to a disco, sleep on the beach, i.e. do everything that their parents normally forbid them to do.

**11. What is the music like in those scenes? Why?**

The music is non-diegetic and it emphasizes that the children are having fun and enjoying themselves.

**12. What kind of shot is the girl that has a stomachache in when they meet at the beach?**

In a full shot.

**13. When do the children realize that rules exist for a reason and that their parents were right?**

When they realize they're out of healthy food and they're sick.

**14. What kind of shot are the boy with a headache and the girl with a toothache in?**

A medium close-up shot.

**15. Do we ever see the mother?**

We only hear her voice; her role as a mother and what she says is more important than what she looks like.

**16. How do the authors of the film show that the girl dreamt all of this?**

First we hear the mother's voice off screen waking the girl, and then we see the girl sleeping.

**17. How does the film end?**

The screen fades to black and we hear the mother talking about the girl's behaviour off screen, and then we see the title of the film - *Summer Reading*.

**18. What do we see and hear during the end credits?**

We see the children that participated in the making of the film. They're in close-up and medium close-up shots, and they're singing.

**19. What is the music like during the end credits?**

The music is diegetic.

**20. Describe the last shot of the end credits, before the logo of the Šipan Summer Film School appears.**

In the last shot we see everyone that participated in the making of the film singing, filmed from an upper angle.

## EVALUATION

- monitoring student activities while watching a film
- checking the understanding of the film by asking directed questions
- teaching sheet (quiz)

THE TEACHING SHEET (QUIZ) is available on the Film EDUcation website.