

**CLASS DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION:** 4th grade

**COURSE:** Croatian language

**TEACHING AREA:** Culture and media

**TEACHING UNIT:** *Divination Dave*

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

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

### ***DIVINATION DAVE* (Georgia Madden, UK, 2021.)**

#### **MOTIVATION**

Conversation with the students

1. Do you know what consumerism means? How do we tie it to the modern times we live in?
2. Do you think loneliness or spiritual emptiness in life can be replaced by material things?
3. Why do some people resort to alternative forms of help, such as divination, horoscopes, tarot, crystals and the like?

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

You will watch a short film *Divination Dave* produced by Georgia Madden from the United Kingdom.

#### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR WATCHING**

1. Pay attention to the kinds of shots and editing transitions used in the film.
2. Pay attention to how hallucination was depicted. How is it emphasized with animation?
3. Pay attention to the end credits and how they were made.
4. Numerous animation techniques have been used in this film, try to spot them all and think about when and why they alternate.

#### **WATCHING OF THE FILM**

#### **EXPRESSION OF STUDENT IMPRESSIONS**

Did you like the film? Why?

#### **ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE FILM**

1. **How does the film start?**

The film starts with a shot of a picture and a clock on a wall.

**2. What's the camera movement like in that shot?**

The camera is dynamic. The shot is panoramic, i.e. the camera moves horizontally. However, since the camera is parallel to the wall, we can say it's a dolly shot because, since the camera moves only slightly, we cannot be sure if it's moving around its axis or is the whole camera moving to the right.

**3. Which shot follows?**

An extreme close-up of a beer can.

**4. What do we learn about the place of action based on the next shot in which the beer drips onto the floor?**

We learn that this is a messy, dirty space that probably stinks because there are remnants of crisps and beer on the floor, and the messiness is further accentuated by a fly circling around.

**5. How is the main character portrayed the first time we see him?**

We see only his belly and his chin in an extreme close-up, and then the camera zooms away from the character and we first see him in a medium full shot, and then in a full shot in profile.

**6. Which shot follows?**

An extreme close-up of the main character's foot in socks that emit a green smoke, which suggest his feet stink.

**7. What appears after that? How was it made?**

The name of the film appears, the first part of which is written in green letters that came from the smoke, and the second part in red letters.

**8. What is the sound like in shots before it and the shot in which the name of the film appears?**

There is no music or voices. There are only the noises of a ticking clock, drops of beer falling from the table onto the carpet and the buzzing of a fly. In the shot in which the name of the film appears, we hear the noise of the name being printed on an unidentified background.

**9. Are there any subjective shots in the film? How are they implied?**

They are implied by the medium full shot of the main character, and then by the shot of the TV, while the camera zooms in on him.

**10. What other kind of shot implies the subjective shot?**

It's implied through a close-up of the main character who is surprised when *Hot Gear* appears on TV.

**11. Which editing transition closes that first scene in which the main character decides to order a new lamp?**

A fade-out.

**12. How is the main character eating the lamp depicted?**

Through an extreme close-up of his mouth and an extreme close-up of the lamp he's eating.

**13. How is the impact the lamp has on the main character shown?**

Through an extreme close-up of the main character's forehead on which an eye-shaped hole opens, and a high-pitched noise.

**14. Which shot follows? How is it different from the rest of the film?**

In the next shot, we see a cliff in a wide shot. The difference in animation is obvious because it is a drawing.

**15. What kinds of shots follow?**

Shots in which the viewer is inside the head of the main character, who is experiencing hallucinations.

**16. How are these hallucinations depicted by filmic means of expression?**

The same motifs from the beginning of the film are repeated (for example, a can of beer or crisps), shots are quickly exchanged, different animation techniques are combined (drawings and objects).

This is all emphasized by noises.

**17. What does the character actually experience through these hallucinations?**

He experiences a transformation into a prophet, but later it turns out he was dying.

**18. How was this emphasized?**

It is emphasized through his eyes taking on the appearance of the eye that appeared on his forehead.

The character is in close-up while this is happening.

**19. What kinds of shots appear after the lightning?**

A wide shot of the room and a full shot of the main character floating above his armchair.

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

The film ends with the death of the main character who actually overdosed on the lamp he ate.

### 21. How were the end credits made?

They look like tarot cards. We can see a table and the hands reading from the cards. This is accompanied by non-diegetic music that sounds like waves.

### 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.**