

CLASS DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: 7th grade

COURSE: Croatian language

TEACHING AREA: Culture and media

TEACHING UNIT: *Humbara, Unknown*

CLASS TYPE: Analysis of short fiction films

DURATION OF A TEACHING UNIT: 45 minutes

HUMBARA (Šipan Summer Film School, 2021.)

MOTIVATION

Conversation with the students

1. What scares you the most?
2. Do you watch horror films?
3. What do you know about the horror genre?
4. What is the importance of music in a horror film?

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FILM

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

INSTRUCTIONS FOR WATCHING

1. Pay attention to which characters appear in the film. Who is the main character?
2. What role does Veronika's doll play in the story?
3. Pay attention to what kinds of shots prevail in the film.
4. Pay attention to the methods used to create a sense of fear in the film.
5. How does music add to the atmosphere of horror in the film?
6. Make sure to watch the entire end credits because that's not the end of the film. What happens after the credits?

WATCHING OF THE FILM

EXPRESSION OF STUDENT IMPRESSIONS

Did you like the film? Why?

How did the film evoke a sense of fear in you?

Which part of the film was the most exciting to you?

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE FILM

1. How does the film start?

We see an extreme wide shot of the sea from a high angle (bird's-eye-view), we hear non-diegetic music and see the name of the film appear - *Humbara*. The names of the film crew appear over the shot of the sea.

2. What is the camera movement in the first shot called?

A tracking shot.

3. After the opening credits we follow two different actions. Which ones?

We simultaneously follow the children jumping into the sea and the girls sunbathing.

4. What is the name of the editing process that allows us to follow two or more simultaneous actions?

Parallel editing.

5. What is the name of the shot that shows us the map on the phone?

An extreme close-up shot.

6. How is tension created while the group of young people explores?

With sound. We hear the wind, the door creaking, and suspenseful music. The tension is also created by showing Veronika's close-up that appears unexpectedly.

7. Which editing transition is used to connect different scenes?

Fade-out and fade-in.

8. Why is that editing transition used?

That editing transition is used to clearly separate different days shown in the film. Every time the screen fades to black, we know that one day is over and a new one follows.

9. Whose voice is telling us the story?

The viewer can't be sure whose voice it is. We can guess that it might be Veronika's, but we aren't sure.

10. What is the state of the camera like in the film?

The camera is very dynamic, often handheld.

11. Which camera movements appear often in the film?

Pans are frequent (pans from left to right, from right to left), tracking shots and small twitches and movements.

12. How does the film end?

As the enchanted Veronika attacks the group of friends, a girl kicks the *poisonous* doll out of Veronika's hand. The girl is in a medium shot, while her kicking the doll is shown in a close-up.

13. What is the music like at the end of the film?

The final scene is accompanied by exciting and suspenseful music.

14. What appears after the end credits?

In a wide shot of the beach, we see a doll floating in the sea. A little girl approaches the doll and grabs it. The problem is solved (Veronika is freed), but a threat still exists, which is typical for the horror genre.

UNKNOWN (Episkop, Pakrac, 2021.)

MOTIVATION

Conversation with the students

1. What are your experiences with online classes?
2. How much time did you spend on Zoom during the pandemic?
3. Do you dread that kind of teaching after all that happened?
4. Have your online classes ever been hacked by someone that wasn't invited? Describe your experience.
5. Does the word *unknown* in itself cause you discomfort or fear?

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FILM

You will watch a short film *Unknown* produced by Episkop.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR WATCHING

1. Pay attention to the characters in the film. How many characters do we follow?
2. Pay attention to the sound in the film.
3. Explain the procedures that create a feeling of fear and tension in the film.
4. Why does the film end the way it does? What do you think will happen after the last shot?
5. Highlight the structural similarities between the beginning and end of the film. What kind of composition or structure are we talking about?

WATCHING OF THE FILM

EXPRESSION OF STUDENT IMPRESSIONS

Did you like the film? Why?

What scared you in the film?

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

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE FILM

1. How does the film start?

After the name of the production house, the name of the film *Unknown* is immediately visible, then it starts to flicker and disappears. Then we see a close-up of a teacher who invites four students to an online class.

2. What do we call the process of following multiple simultaneous images shown within the same frame?

It's called split screen.

3. How does the frame begin to split into parts?

At the beginning, we can only see the teacher in a close-up. A student called Tena appears, also in close-up. The screen is divided into two parts. Then Larisa appears in a wide shot, and the screen is divided into three parts. At the end, the last two students appear and the screen is divided into five parts.

4. How many parts is the screen split into?

Five parts.

5. When and how does a threat appear in the film?

During class, a sixth screen with the name Unknown appears. Although the teacher addresses them, no one answers. At the same time, strange noises appear and there are disturbances with the image. The entire frame with all six screens starts flashing.

6. We follow the same five screens throughout the film. How is the tension created?

With the sound and flickering of images. Every time someone addresses the Unknown, the image flickers and ominous noises appear.

7. Why do the actors always appear in the same kinds of shots?

Since the film wants to create the illusion of reality, the angles and kinds of shots used don't change during the online class. Thus, the actors are always in the same kinds of shots.

8. What is the pinnacle of the film?

At one point a countdown appears on the Unknown's screen, and then we see an extreme wide shot of one of the students' room from a different angle.

9. Who is the antagonist in the film?

They are never visible. We only see them at one point as a figure in a black T-shirt approaches the camera on a computer. The villain attacks the characters one by one.

10. What happens to the sound at the very end of the film?

The sound disappears. We see the characters shouting, but we don't hear them. An ominous noise is dominant.

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.