

Educational material

# Wall to Wall



**CLASS DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade**

**TEACHING AREA: Culture and media**

**TEACHING UNIT: Wall to Wall**

**CLASS TYPE: Analysis and interpretation of a short feature film**

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

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

- participates in the Digital Film EDUcation workshop organized by the Croatian Film Association
- attends a lecture in a digital environment
- notices the connection between film and the world that surrounds it
- recognizes feature film as a film genre
- recognizes the characteristics of film language
- expresses personal opinions and attitudes
- connects the theme of the film with everyday life

**KEY TERMS:**

shot, sound effects, music, voice-over, subjective shot, violated expectation, post-credit sequence, fourth wall

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES:**

- expresses personal feelings, attitudes and experiences
- connects previously acquired knowledge
- watches animated films
- expresses impressions after watching the film
- analyzes the film on stylistic and content levels by answering guided questions
- completes a quiz to self-evaluate knowledge

**WALL TO WALL**

Linda Lövgren, Sweden, 2024

**MOTIVATION**

Conversation with the students

1. Is there a difference between loneliness and solitude? When do you feel lonely?
2. Is speech important for understanding and communication between people?
3. How can a message be conveyed? Which non-verbal communication systems exist?

**THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FILM**

You will watch the short film Wall to Wall by Linda Lovgren, which won the Youth Cinema Network Award in 2023.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR WATCHING

1. Pay attention to the film's soundscape.
2. Try to define which editing transitions are used in the film and why.
3. Pay attention to the breaking of the fourth wall in the film.

## WATCHING THE FILM

## EXPRESSION OF STUDENT IMPRESSIONS

What do you think of the film? Be sure to provide arguments for your impressions.

## ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE FILM

1. **How does the film begin? What is seen and what is heard?**  
With a shot of inserting headphones into a cassette player. Diegetic sound effects.
2. **What is the music like in these opening shots?**  
Diegetic.
3. **In which shot is the girl Lo filmed?**  
In a medium close-up.
4. **How does the viewer receive information about Lo?**  
Through voice-over narration.
5. **What is her main characteristic besides loving music?**  
She loves different sounds (which the viewer also hears) and avoids social contact.
6. **Besides voice-over, how is it additionally emphasized that she avoids social contact?**  
Through the image, when the camera pans from her medium shot to the wall above her bed, where it literally says that she should avoid social contact.
7. **How are sound and image connected in this scene?**  
When the lights are switched on, the sound of a click is heard.
8. **At what moment does the film pause?**  
When the moment Lo has long been waiting for occurs (the anticipation is shown through a calendar, clock and stopwatch).
9. **What do we call the shot in which the man is seen through the door peephole?**  
A subjective shot, suggested by Lo approaching the door, placing her eye on the peephole, followed by a cut to what she sees.
10. **How is the viewer's expectation violated?**  
The viewer gets the impression that she is waiting for a boyfriend, but it is actually a delivery person.  
The package in his hands is initially not shown, and only when it appears does the viewer realize they have been misled by the film language.

**11. How is the flashback introduced?**

Through voice-over narration and a close-up shot of Lo as a girl.

**12. Why did Lo begin avoiding social contact and stop speaking?**

Because of trauma after losing her parents in a car accident, which she was the only survivor of.

**13. Which shots dominate in the accident scene?**

Close-ups.

**14. How is Lars introduced?**

With a close-up while he eats pizza, followed by a zoom out to an American shot to place him in his apartment.

**15. What do we learn about Lars?**

He is a former soldier, uses his mobile phone to order food, and avoids buying from China or other communist countries, emphasized by a shot of a world map with communist countries crossed out.

**16. How does his transformation into a soldier begin?**

With knocking sounds, followed by a sudden zoom to his face in close-up while the image darkens, shots of a world map, and close-ups of military equipment accompanied by non-diegetic marching music.

**17. What separates Lo and Lars? What connects them?**

They are separated by the wall between their apartments, but connected by their knowledge of Morse code.

**18. Besides voice-over, how is it shown that Lo can recognize bird calls?**

Through rapid editing of short shots of different birds and their diegetic sounds.

**19. When does Lo decide to stop communicating with Lars? Why?**

When he suggests they meet and eat pizza together. She is afraid of face-to-face social interaction.

**20. How is the passage of time shown after they stop communicating?**

Through shots of Lars in his chair surrounded by empty pizza boxes.

Through shots of Lo producing sounds with glasses of water accumulating around her.

**21. Which editing transition marks the decisive day?**

A dissolve, emphasizing the passage of time.

**22. How is Lo's turning point emphasized?**

A medium shot of Lo on the bed with darkness surrounding her, except for the light from the phone, symbolizing fear and confrontation.

**23. When does Lo speak again?**

When she calls emergency services after hearing through the wall that Lars had a heart attack.

**24. What reward did Lo receive for saving Lars' life? Who tells us this?**

She regained her voice. This is said by a medical worker directly addressing the camera (breaking the fourth wall).

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

Lo and Lars eat Chinese food together in his apartment.

**26. What do the end credits look like?**

They appear as a post-credit sequence, with text displayed over the scene of Lo and Lars eating together.

## EVALUATION

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

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