

FILM ENGLISH

Love is Like Life but Longer

Language level: Upper-intermediate (B2.1)
– Advanced (C1)

Learner type: Teens and adults

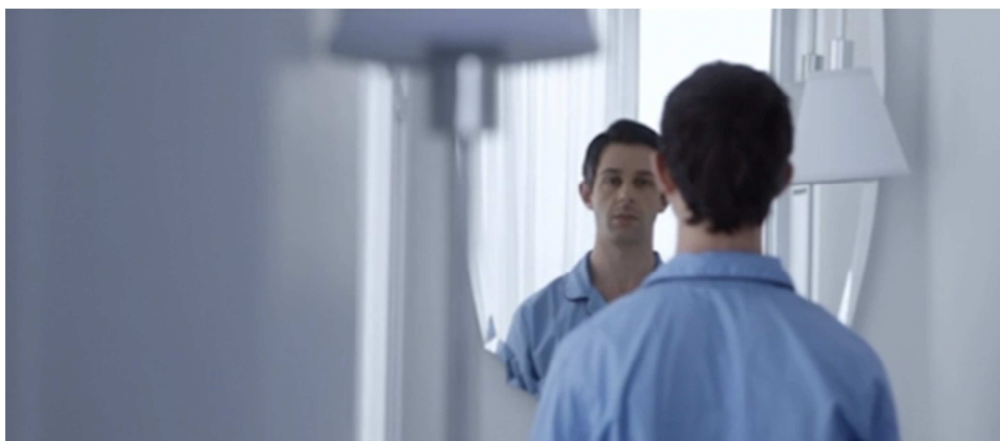
Time: 60 minutes

Activity: Watching a short film, speaking
and writing

Topic: Love

Language: *like + noun and narrative
tenses*

Materials: Short film and PowerPoint
Presentation



Overview

This lesson is based on a poignant short film about love called *Love is Like Life but Longer* directed by Poppy de Villeneuve. It's one of the best short films I've ever seen, superbly directed and written.

Step 1

Write on the board:

Love is like

Ask students to complete the sentence in as many ways as possible. Get the students to compare their sentences, and then get feedback.

Step 2

Tell students they are going to see a film which is called *Love is Like Life but Longer*. Ask them what they think the title means and what the film is about. Next tell your students that there is a voice-over at the start of the film with a man saying the words below. The words are also in the document *Love is Like Life but Longer*. Ask them to read the paragraph and to explain what it means. Ask them if they agree with the words.

"If there is such a thing as marriage, it takes place long before the ceremony: in a taxi, on the way to the airport as a cold bedroom churning with the sun of the morning. One lover watching the

other and seeing himself for the first time. Where two strangers standing together in the rain, no bus in sight, some friends birthday dinner, a single night and you're ready to give everything, even if it means ruin. Love is like a bookmark, divides us with the before and the after, and always without words. Love is like life but starts before and continuous after. We arrive and depart in the middle".

Step 3

Tell your students that they are going to watch the opening of the film in which we hear the words in Step 1, ask them what images they think will accompany the words. Show them the start of the film, and stop at 1 minute 18 seconds.

Link: <http://vimeo.com/21081764>

Get feedback from your students about whether the images were similar to what they expected.

Step 4

Show your students the 4 stills from the film below, and ask them to predict the narrative of the film from the opening scene they have just watched and the 4 pictures. Get them to work in pairs and give 10 minutes to write a narrative for the film. Next put 2 pairs together and then ask them to compare their narratives.



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Step 5

Show the whole film and ask students to compare their narratives with the film's narrative. Ask them what the film's message is.

Step 6

Show your students the quotations starting with *Love is like* in the PowerPoint presentation, and ask them to discuss the quotations in small groups.

Link: <http://www.slideshare.net/kierandonaghy/love-is-like>