

FILM ENGLISH

The Conditioned

Language level: Intermediate (B1) – Upper Intermediate (B2)

Learner type: Teens and adults

Time: 90 minutes

Activity: Describing two pictures, writing a narrative, watching a short film and discussing questions related to the narrative shown in the film.

Topic: Empathy

Language: Adjectives to describe a person and narrative tenses

Materials: Short film



Overview

This EFL lesson plan is designed around a short film by [Facebook Stories](#) about Raimundo Arruda Sobrinho who was homeless in São Paulo, Brazil, for nearly 35 years. Raimundo became sat in in the same spot and wrote every day. He was befriended by a young woman named Shalla Monteiro who was impress by his poetry and she wanted to help him with his dream of publishing a book. She created a Facebook Page to feature Raimundo's writing. You can see more about Raimundo and his poetry on his Facebook Page: facebook.com/ocondicionado.

Students describe two pictures, write a narrative, watch a short film and discuss questions related to the narrative shown in the film.

Step 1

Show the photo of Raimindo below. Ask the learners to describe him.



Step 2

Ask the students to discuss the following questions:

What has the man done in his life?

How is he feeling right now?

Step 3

Show the photo of Raimindo below. Ask the learners to describe him.



Step 4

Ask the students to discuss the following questions:

What has the man done in his life?

How is he feeling right now?

Step 5

If the students don't already know tell them that the two photos are the same person. Explain that the photos are from the beginning and end of a short film about a man called Raimundo who is a poet known as *The Conditioned*.

Step 6

Put the learners into small groups and tell them to write a narrative which tells the story of what happened to Raimundo between the first and second image. Set a time limit of 15 minutes. Walk around the classroom providing language as necessary.

Step 7

Ask a student from each group to read out their narrative and ask the other learners to comment on the stories.

Step 8

Tell the learners they are going to watch the short film which tell Raimundo's story. Tell them the film is in English and Portuguese. Ask them to compare the narrative they see in the film with their own narratives.

Show the film:

<https://vimeo.com/85667492>

Step 9

Get feedback from the students on Raimundo's story and how it was similar and different from their stories. Ask the students how the film makes them feel.

Step 10

Ask the learners what adjectives they would use to describe:

- Raimundo
- Shalla
- Raimundo's brother

Step 11

Dictate the following poem to the students:

"Damned is the man who abandons himself."

These six words show that the worse the situation is,

Never ever should a man consider it lost."

Step 12

Ask the students to discuss the meaning of the poem.

Step 13

Ask the learners if there are any lessons we can learn from the film.

Homework

Ask the learners to put themselves in Raimundo's shoes and to write about the story from his perspective.

I hope you enjoy the lesson.

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