

THE SCHOOL FOR TRAINING

INNOVATIVE COURSES FOR TEACHERS

The School for Training is a small specialist teacher training institute in Barcelona, providing innovative face-to-face and online courses of the highest quality for language teachers from around the world. The school was founded and is run by the award-winning writer and trainer Kieran Donaghy who has extensive experience of designing and delivering courses for teachers. Find out more about courses:

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A Single Life



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

Learner type: Teens and adults

Time: 60 minutes

Activity: Watching a short film, speaking and writing

Topic: Stages of life

Language: Vocabulary related to childhood, adolescence, adulthood and old age.

Materials: Short film

Overview

This ELT lesson plan is designed around a short film by [Job, Joris & Marieke](#) and the theme of stages of life. In the lesson students practise vocabulary related to the stages of life, discuss stages of life, watch a short film, and speak and write about it.

Step 1

Ask your students the following question:

“What are the different stages of life?”

Put your students into pairs and give them 1 minute to come up with as many stages of life as they can.

Step 2

Elicit or explain the following stages of life:

birth; childhood; adolescence; adulthood; parenthood; middle age; old age; death

Step 3

In small groups ask them to discuss the following questions:

- What emotions do you associate with each stage of life?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of the following stages of life: childhood; adolescence; adulthood; parenthood; and old age?

Step 4

Hold a plenary session designed around the questions from the previous stage.

Step 5

Tell your students they are going to watch a short film about the different stages of life. As they watch they should try to identify the different stages and also identify the objects which represent each stage.

Show the film twice and then get students to compare their responses.

Link: <https://vimeo.com/225249697>

Step 6

Show the film a third time. This time pause at each stage of life and ask students to identify it and the objects which represent it.

Step 7

In pairs ask your students to discuss the following questions:

- Why do you think the film is called “A Single Life”?
- What’s the film’s message?
- How does the film make you feel?

Step 8

Hold a plenary discussion based on the questions from the previous stage.

Homework

Give your students a link to the film. Ask them to watch it at home and write the story the film telling starting with the words:

“Once upon a time, there was a woman called Pia ...”