

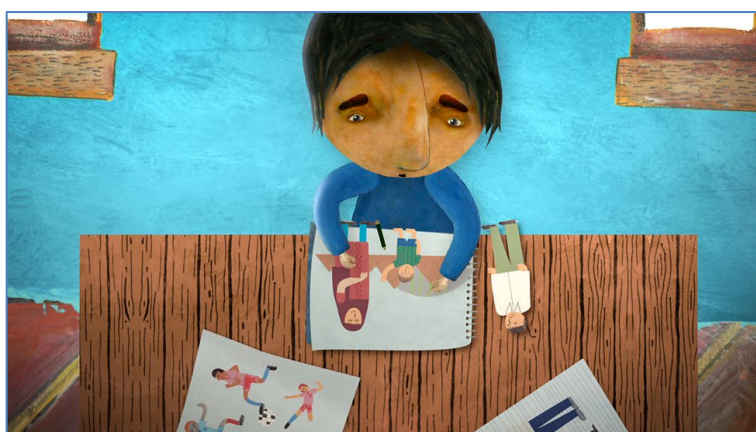
THE SCHOOL FOR TRAINING

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:

<https://theschoolfortraining.com/>

Ali's Story



Language level: Upper Intermediate (B2.2)- Advanced (C2)

Learner type: Teens and adults

Time: 90 minutes

Activity: Vocabulary work, speaking, watching a short film, and writing

Topic: Refugees

Language: Vocabulary related to refugees

Materials: Short film and vocabulary sheet

Overview

This ELT lesson plan is designed around an animated short film for the BBC and the theme of refugees. Students practise vocabulary related to refugees, speak about refugees, watch a short film, empathise with refugee children and write an account of a refugee child fleeing their country.

Step 1

Write “refugee” on the board. Elicit or explain that a refugee is someone who has been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war, or violence. Explain that according to the [United Nations](#) a refugee “has a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group.”

Step 2

Give students the refugee worksheet. Ask them to connect the ten words related to refugees with the ten definitions.

Step 3

Check their answers and help them with pronunciation.

Step 4

Ask your students to discuss the following questions in small groups:

- What’s the difference between a refugee and an immigrant?
- What problems do refugees bring to the countries they go to?
- What benefits do refugees bring to the countries they go to?
- What rights and benefits should a country give to refugees?
- What do you think it’s like to flee your country and end up in a detention centre or refugee camp in another country?

Step 5

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

Step 6

Tell your students they are going to watch but not hear a short film about an Afghan boy called Ali who is a refugee.

Show the film with the sound off twice.

Link: <https://vimeo.com/44516196>

Step 7

Pair your students and ask them to retell Ali’s story to each other.

Step 8

Get the whole class to retell Ali’s story.

Step 9

Tell your student's that they are now going to watch the film with sound. As they watch and listen, they should try to understand what Ali says. Show the film with the sound on twice.

Step 10

Hold a whole class discussion based on what they happened to Ali and his family.

Step 11

Put your students into small groups. Ask them to discuss how they could welcome children like Ali and help them settle in their country.

Step 12

Hold a whole class discussion on how they could welcome refugee children and help them settle in their country.

Homework

Ask your students to try and imagine how they would feel in Ali's situation and write an account in the first-person singular based on their experiences.