

After'16 Short Film Collection Worksheet

My Life for Ireland

Recommended age: 12+

Suggested Class: TY English, History, CSPE, Politics & Society, Film Studies

Themes: 1916, Local History, Nationalism, Ideology vs Reality

1. Watch the Film through once:

a. How does the filmmaker depict Ireland at the time of the Easter Rising?

b. Read the two opinions below:

Albert: *I'm sorry now but the greatest Empire this world ever saw took time out of its busy schedule to absorb us and this is how we thank them.*

Owen: *In the name of the Irish Republic, We, the combined forces of the Irish Republican Brotherhood, the Irish Citizen army and the Irish Volunteers, do hereby take control of this organ of the British state.*

How do the opinions differ?

c. What is the tone of the film, in your opinion? Give evidence from the film for your opinion.

2. Watch the Film again:

a. Why, according to Rose, did the rebels take over the GPO?

What's Albert's opinion of their tactics?

b. What does Rose want in the new country?

c. Read the quotes below:

Owen: We will share our country's resources fairly. We will cherish all the children the same and bring harmony and fraternity to our country.

Pump Man: What about the pump?

What is the filmmaker trying to say about Ireland, do you think?

3. Ideology Vs Reality

a. How does the film represent ideology and reality for Ireland of 1916? What do you think is the filmmakers' view?

b. Make a list of qualities for Eoin's vision for Ireland and a list of qualities for Albert's view of Ireland. Which type of Ireland would you prefer? Which type of Ireland exists today, do you think?

4. Film Studies

What do you think of the style of the film? Consider the credits, costume, colour, soundtrack, use of camera.