

3 The narrator's conflict

ZIELE	Analyse des Konfliktes des Erzählers
THEMEN	Applying for asylum status (GB), personal fate of a refugee empathy
MATERIAL	Arbeitsblatt 3

Aufgabe 1

Die Aufgabe wird in Partnerarbeit bearbeitet. Anhand einer *chart* analysieren die S das Dilemma bzw. den Konflikt der erzählenden Person, die Probleme, mit denen er/sie konfrontiert ist, die Optionen, die sich möglicherweise ergeben und die Erkenntnisse, die er/sie daraus gewonnen hat. Die S füllen die *chart* mit Hilfe der vorgeschlagenen Ausdrücke in der Box aus.

Lösungsvorschlag

the narrator's conflict: *to accept or refuse Salim's application for asylum...*

problems/challenges: *troubled by Salim's plight and the fate of refugees in general, trained to demolish arguments for refugee status as a case worker for the Home Office, knows that there are aspects and gaps (lacunae) in a refugee's formal application papers that are not obvious but are important to him because they tell a different story....*

options: *rely not only on the facts in the formal application paper but find out more about Salim by asking questions to fill the gaps in his story, stick to the standard procedure of British Immigration policies and agree to Salim's deportation, show solidarity and understanding for a refugee's predicament and accept his application...*

insights: *frustrated with the constraints his/her job imposes on him/her, needs to regulate himself/herself in the job, of unimaginable atrocities not contained in the formal papers, feeling of impotence and powerlessness, injustice of the system, a free and civilised Europe is a myth.*

Aufgabe 2

Die S tauschen ihre Ergebnisse in Gruppen aus. Sie bereiten ein Gruppenstatement vor, in dem sie den Konflikt bewerten und kommentieren. Die S stellen ihre *statements* im Plenum vor. Im anschließenden Unterrichtsgespräch sichert, ergänzt und problematisiert L die Ergebnisse.

Lösungsbeispiel

We are aware of the conflict the narrator is faced with. It is indeed a tough job to decide who is going to be granted asylum status based on the application papers only. The way the narrator reflects on the asylum process and the fate of refugees shows his or her empathy for the human aspects of the job.

Nevertheless, he or she feels quite powerless to do something about the situation....

Die S fassen dann das Dilemma des Erzählers in wenigen Sätzen schriftlich zusammen. Dafür eignet sich z.B. folgender *quick-write*-Impuls: *What conflict is the narrator faced with when processing Salim's application form?*

Aufgabe 3

Die zentrale Frage *What do we want from the world?* wird abschließend von den S kommentiert. Sie beziehen dabei den entsprechenden Abschnitt in der Geschichte mit ein: p. 18, ll. 1–6 und ergänzen eigene Aspekte.

Alternativ wird die Frage in Kleingruppen bearbeitet. Die S notieren bis zu drei verschiedene Antworten auf Moderationskarten oder *sticky notes*. Die Ideen werden in der Gruppe vorgestellt und erläutert. Jede Gruppe stellt ihre Ergebnisse im Plenum vor.

Lösungsvorschlag

Beispiele aus der Geschichte: *... security, able to live one's life in peace, a safe home enough to eat, no suffering from illnesses or disease, medical assistance in case of illness.*

Wichtige Aspekte: *... atrocities committed by fellow humans have to stop, people have a right to be safe from harm and live a decent life free from fear and persecution, no violation of human rights, help people to make a new life for themselves when they seek protection in a new country, support, solidarity.*

3 The narrator's conflict

- 1 Fill in the chart below using words and phrases from the box. What is the narrator's conflict or dilemma? What are the challenges s/he is faced with? What options are there? What insights does the narrator gain?

Add quotes from the text.

- 2 Discuss your ideas in small groups. Prepare a group statement in which you evaluate and comment on the narrator's conflict.

LANGUAGE HELP

- to accept • to apply • to be affected • to be trained to do sth. • to be troubled by • to feel sympathy for sb. • to deport sb. • to detain sb. • to fill the gaps • to have an impact on sb. • to ignore sth. • injustice • myth • plight • predicament • to refuse • to seek asylum • to understand

Conflict

Quote:

Challenges

Quote:

Options

Quote:

Insights

Quote:

- 3 Comment on this question within the context of the story. What other aspects would you add?

“
WHAT DO WE WANT
FROM THE WORLD?
”