

Is it sweet to die for one's country? War and Gran Torino – Stundenablauf

Dauer: 2 Schulstunden

Der folgende Unterrichtsvorschlag möchte einen Vergleich von positiver und negativer Resonanz von Krieg anstellen. Im Anschluss können die Schüler über die Wirkung und Folgen von Krieg in Bezug auf *Gran Torino* diskutieren.

I. Einstieg: stiller Impuls des Horaz Zitats (plus wenn nötig eine englische Übersetzung):

Zitat Horaz: Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori.

Translation: Sweet and honourable it is to die for one's country.

Background information:

This line (Odes III.2.13) is from the Roman Horace, a leading poet from the 1st century BC. At the beginning of the 20th century the line became famous again, as the British poet Wilfred Owen used this quote as the title of his World War I poem, in which he portrays the horrors of war.

Arbeitsanweisungen:

Read the quote by the famous Roman poet Horace.

1. Describe in your own words what the poet probably intended to communicate.
2. Speculate on reasons why the poet might have thought about war as a positive concept.

Überleitung:

While the Roman poet seems convinced that a person's commitment to his home country by going to war and even dying for his country is full of positive ideas, you will now listen to a song by a British singer-songwriter who gives us a new dimension of war and its consequences.

Background information:

The English singer-songwriter James Blunt served six years for the British Army. His troop's KFOR assignment in Kosovo was to locate and target Serb forces for the NATO bombing campaign. While on duty he wrote this song.

II. Erarbeitung: James Blunt's "No Bravery"

Arbeitsschritte	Materialien	Ergebnissicherung
1. First listening to James Blunt's "No Bravery" Task: Listen to the song and describe its mood.	Lied	Mündliches Sammeln der Stimmung des Liedes
2. Second Listening to James Blunt's "No Bravery" Task: Fill in the gaps.	Arbeitsblatt Lied	Abgleichen der Lücken.
3. Working with James Blunt's "No Bravery" Task: Describe the realities of war and their consequences according to the song. Fill in the table.	Arbeitsblatt	Abgleichen der Inhalte des Liedes.

III. Post-reading activities

- > With a partner: Think of more realities and consequences of war not mentioned in the song and write a new stanza about them.
- > Wrapping up: Compare the ideas of the quote by Horace and James Blunt's "No Bravery" with the notion of war in *Gran Torino*.