

Film Activity

❖ Introductions

- Facilitators introduce themselves.
- Ask students to get into groups of 3-5 (depending on number of students) or put them in groups. You will want 4-5 groups total.
- Explain that we will be watching clips from five German films from five different “eras.” After each clip, students, in their groups, will be asked to imagine what will happen next in some different ways.
- Explain that students will want to take notes as the film clips are playing, or directly thereafter. Also remind students that they might not understand everything that is being said, but that that doesn’t matter too much, and to focus on the action instead.

❖ *Nosferatu* (1922) – Clip Length: 13 seconds followed by 1 minute, 22 seconds

- Play clip for students.
- After clip is through, ask students if they know what movie this clip is from.
- In the spirit of silent film, students will work together and act out the next scene (give them 3 minutes to prepare).
- Ask one or two groups to perform in front of the class.

❖ *Angst essen Seele auf* (1974) – Clip Length: 2 minutes, 29 seconds

- Play clip for students.
- This time, students will add dialogue to their scene. They will act out what happens next. (Give students 4 minutes or so to prepare.)
- Ask one or two groups to perform in front of the class.

❖ *Lola rennt* (1998) – Clip Length: 4 minutes, 23 seconds

- Play clip for students.
- This time, students will be asked by facilitators directly to hypothesize what will happen next.
- Ask three or four students to offer their ideas.

❖ *Kebab Connection* (2005) – Clip Length: 2 minutes, 19 seconds

- Play clip for students.

- Pass out small slips of paper to every two students.
- This time, in partners, students will write down one sentence explaining what will happen next.
- Collect the slips from all students and choose a few at random to read aloud to the group.
- If you would like, have students vote on the best next scene.

❖ *Einmal Hans mit scharfer Soße* (2013) – Clip Length:

- Play clip for students.
- This time, in groups, students will come up with a “pitch” for what the next scene should be. It should be short, succinct, and presented to the facilitators as if they are proposing this to film executives.
- Give students just 3-4 minutes to prepare, and then have each group present one right after the other.
- If you choose, you may decide which one you prefer and declare that team the winners.

❖ Conclusions

- Thank students for coming and participating.
- Have students clean up after themselves as they leave (i.e. pick up any papers they may have used).