

## Die fetten Jahre sind vorbei (Film)

Teachers will be familiar with this film as it featured on the list of the previous specification. “Die fetten Jahre sind vorbei” centres around three young people who intend to change the ills of society. Peter and Jan break into the houses of rich people, swap around their furniture and other household items and leave messages such as “you have too much money” in order to make rich people feel insecure. Jan and Peter’s girlfriend Jule fall in love. Jule is in financial difficulties since she badly damaged a rich man’s car when driving without insurance. When Jan tells Jule about the secret break-ins she is keen to get into the house of Hardenberg, the rich man, who she owes money to because of the car accident. During the break in Hardenberg returns back home unexpectedly. In their despair Jan, Peter and Jule abduct Hardenberg to a wooden hut in the mountains where they stay for a few days and have political discussions with the rich man. In the end the three decide to free Hardenberg who in exchange promises not to involve the police and to forego Jule’s debts. Contrary to his promises Hardenberg calls the police, but before the three young people can be caught they leave the country. The film lends itself to the study of structure as the plot is fairly complex.

Activity	Skills covered	Ideas for use
<p><b>Activity 1</b></p>	<p>With this activity students will understand the impact the main character Jan has on the plot. In this mind map activity students will also develop their reading skills as they will have to drag and drop relevant descriptions of Jan onto the correct field.</p>	<p>This activity could be done as a whole class starter activity after watching the film for the first time. It can also be used as an individual activity, especially as the system gives instant feedback.</p>
<p><b>Activity 2</b></p>	<p>Students use their listening and reading skills as they first watch the trailer and then arrange the events of the film into the “before” and “after” column .</p>	<p>The trailer serves to remind the students of the events of the film. Ideally they should have watched the whole film before completing this activity which can either be done individually or as a whole class activity. Again the solutions are available for self-assessment.</p>

<p><b>Activity 3</b></p>	<p>Students will have an opportunity to use their listening, reading and writing skills. They will be reminded of the scene in Hardenberg's house by watching the short extract of the trailer. The short text (Auszug) will guide them when they have to explain the significance of the scene in Hardenberg's house.</p>	<p>This activity is based on a key scene of the film, which leads to the disastrous development of events i.e. the abduction of Hardenberg. The short text gives the students a basis for the writing task, but they might want to revisit whole the scene in the film if they need more detail. This activity can be used as a homework task, especially as the finished product can be printed out.</p>
<p><b>Activity 4</b></p>	<p>This activity tests students' writing skills.</p>	<p>This activity is similar to activity one as it is a mind map as well, but it is more demanding as the students receive less help in their task to describe six effects the abduction of Hardenberg has on the plot. They basically just receive six headings to guide them. This activity can again be used as a homework task.</p>
<p><b>Activity 5</b></p>	<p>Students use their reading and writing skills to show Peter's influence on the other characters</p>	<p>This is again a demanding writing task as the students simply receive a short stimulus text and a visual stimulus (photos of the other characters) before they have to describe the influence Peter has on the other figures. This task could be used as the basis of an oral task in class where Peter's influence could be discussed in more detail. It can also be used for individual work.</p>

## Activity 6

This final activity is a reading and writing exercise again.

A short text explains which importance Hardenberg has for the plot. This exercise is a creative writing exercise as the students will have to describe what the film would be like if Hardenberg was removed from the plot. This activity could be used as a final fun activity and the different versions could be discussed in class.