Brief synopsis of the film

In 1952, two young Argentinians, Ernesto Guevara, a 23 year old medical student and Alberto Granado, a biochemist, embark on a road trip from their home in Buenos Aires to discover the real Latin America. The film follows the friends on their journey as they discover the rich and complex human and social topography of their continent. Travelling on Granado's unreliable motorbike 'La Poderosa' they begin their travels with a romanticised sense of adventure and a good degree of naivety and idealism. Inevitably the bike breaks down during the course of their eight-month journey but they press onward regardless, hitching rides along the way through Chile and Peru. As they witness the injustices, inequality and divisions that abound throughout South America they both, but particularly Ernesto, begin to reflect upon their own changing values and perspectives and to question the meaning of progress as defined by political and economic systems that divide so much of the continent through which they have travelled.

Reference

http://www.tribute.ca/movies/the-motorcycle-diaries/8831/

Based on the actual diaries written by Che Guevara, this is a film that explores themes such as friendship, poverty, inequality and injustice as well as allowing the spectator to witness the wonderful expansive landscapes of Latin America.

	Description of activity and suggested uses	Skills covered
Activity 1	There are several statements thought bubbles with titles inside. At the bottom of the screen, statements will appear one at a time and can be dragged to the correct place on the mind map. A check button will put a tick or a cross by the statements in the mind map. Each statement can be further developed in class, both in speaking and writing with teacher guidance. The printing facility can be used for future revision.	Reading, writing, speaking and listening will be developed as well as skills in analysis as students become more familiar with the characters in the film.

Activity 2	Use this mind map to analyse the effect the leper colony has on the development of Ernesto's character. Students can watch 3 clips from the film which are linked to the thought bubbles going in order clockwise from the top, middle. Each thought bubble can be further developed in class with teacher guidance and the print can be used for students to keep work for future revision.	Reading, writing, speaking and listening will be developed as well as skills in analysis as students become more familiar with the way in which events in the film mould and develop Ernesto's character.
Activity 3	Students read the extract and decide what would happen if Alberto were removed from the film. They then write a short piece (80 words) expressing their ideas. This can be further developed in class using group/ pair work with teacher guidance and the print facility allows students to keep work for future revision.	Reading, writing, speaking and listening will be developed as well as skills in analysis as students become more familiar with the way in which different characters have an effect on the film.