

STUDENTS' CONVERSATION ON « L'HEURE DE L'OURS »

NB : pour ce film, une élève a suggéré le titre anglais « When the bear awakes »

Charlène: I think, this short-story was interesting, because it gives free rein to our imagination, while leaving us clues about the message of this story. For example, the bear, for me is very important because it symbolizes the anger and the cruelty of the child, who doesn't know how to express himself differently. Finally, I think that the bear are the child or sometimes, the mother and the sweetness (tenderness) he never had.

Léa: Yes I agree with you, for me the bear represents all the anger that the child contains. I think it also represents his only friend, his only landmark.

Chloé: "The Bear Hour" for my part seems very interesting because even if the main character is a little boy, I think it's not childish. I agree with Charlène that it gives free rein to our imagination. For example, when there are children on bears all together, it can make us think of an alliance of all the children who feel lonely or unloved.

Charlène: It is also the representation that I have. In this story, other things intrigue me, the man that we saw, is it his father or simply his mother's boyfriend ? The child seems not to like him, so maybe the second option. Moreover, he seems to be the disruptive element. As Chloé says, every child who feels unloved, must have a trigger. For me the father set off the anger and the beast of the child.

Chloé: Yes! I also find so Charlène! I find that the fact that I made this dark short film with bright colours sets a very threatening mood. For example, the red of the man's cigarette makes me feel uncomfortable as soon as he arrives. And as Charlène says, we can see that the child doesn't seem to appreciate it...

Charlène: I agree with you, the music, the decor (setting), the colours and the way the characters behave is quite disturbing. Finally, the child doesn't seem well, it is probably for that, that the ambience is creepy, because the inner world of the child is chaotic.

Chloé: There are also colours that nuance the movements.

Léa: I totally agree with you about the strange man who we don't know who he is. I also think the same things about the mood of the short-movie that makes me some uncomfortable. I think it is the reflection of the emotions of the child.

Chloé: So that was all that caught my attention , bye !

Charlène: Goodbye, have a nice day !

Final comment by teacher: Hi girls, well done, you have made some very shrewd (= perspicace) analysis ! And you have also used some very interesting vocabulary (like "to give free rein to our imagination", for example). You have perfectly understood the symbolic correspondence between the little boy and the bear, which is at once an echo and an alliance, like a totem animal that protects the child. Yes, his inner world is chaotic because his life must have changed recently (maybe his father died or left his mum, for instance, and he cannot accept a new man in the house...).