**Activity 1**

**STEP 1:** Look at the title and the pictures taken from the video you are about to watch. Try to guess what the topic will be.

 

**STEP 2:** These are words you will come across while viewing the video. Work in groups and try to match them to their meanings.

1. Sentenced to imprisonment 1. alcohol
2. Liquor 2. prisoner
3. A straight shooter 3. put up with sth. unpleasant, tolerate
4. Inmate 4. continuously
5. Nurture 5. without solution
6. Endure 6. found guilty and put to prison
7. Punctual 7. destiny
8. Incessantly 8. to care for
9. To no resolve 9. on time
10. Fate 10. good and honest

**Activity 2**

**STEP 3:** You will watch a small part of the video (1:30) without sound. Try to identify the character’s emotions and tick the words that you think best describe his feelings.

* Lonesome
* Irritated
* Pleased
* Curious
* Disillusioned
* Exhausted
* Scared
* Optimistic

**STEP 4:** Can you think of more words (adjectives) that best describe his feelings and mood according to what you have just seen and guessed? Share with the rest of the class.

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**Activity 3**

**STEP 5:** Watch again from the start (sound on). The video is paused (2.13): what do you think will happen next? Explain why you think so.

**STEP 6:** Watch the rest of the video to see if you were right. Would you change any of your answers in steps 1 and 3?

**Activity 4**

**STEP 7:** Watch the whole video again, answer the questions and discuss with the rest of the class:

1. It seems that the character is terminally ill.

TRUE / FALSE

1. The character compares his serious health problem with:
2. Living in the countryside
3. The life of a prisoner
4. Playing sports
5. The character feels:
6. Hopeless
7. Optimistic
8. Peaceful
9. What gives him strength is:
10. His family and friends
11. His belongings
12. His past achievements
13. *“Freedom is taken so much for granted when you don’t appreciate the small things that you have”*

What does this phrase mean to you?

1. Have you ever gone through an adventure with your health? How did it make you feel? How did the people around you react?
2. Work in groups of two or three in order to find an alternative title for this video. …………………………………………………………………………………….

**Activity 5**

Read the text and discuss the following points:

* What is it that makes Cameron Duncan notable and admirable?
* What kind of films did Cameron create?
* Do you know any other similar stories of perseverance and strength?

***Cameron Duncan: An exceptional teenager.***



Cameron Duncan (1986-2003) was a young talented film maker who inspired millions with his two short films - ***strike zone*** and ***dfk6498*** - that tell his story of cancer and how it made him feel. These films touched not only New Zealand but the whole world through this touching story of perseverance. At the tender age of 17 Cameron fought a long hard battle against cancer while trying to accomplish making his films, so that the world could see not only who he was but also become aware of this horrible cancer; he wanted to reach out to others who had this disease and tell their story as well.

Duncan wrote, directed and starred in all his films. In terms of style, they could be regarded as melodramatic, though it could be argued that this is necessary in films of such short duration. In any event, they certainly pack an emotional punch and frequently make intelligent observations on human nature that belie the writer's age

**Filmography**

Nothing that is written about Cameron Duncan is likely to explain why he was (and remains) an inspiration to so many; to understand that, it is necessary to see the films. Several of them are available online, on sites such as YouTube.

* Road Safety Ad (1999)
* Anti-smoking Ad (2000)
* *DFK6498* (2002)
* *Every day* (organ donor ad) (2003)
* *Strike Zone* (2003)

Sources:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/dna/h2g2/A49097550>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cameron_Duncan>

* **Homework:**

1. Find music that you believe would be appropriate for the soundtrack of this video and bring it to class. It could be either instrumental or anything with lyrics that suits the theme we discussed above.
2. Write about a person that has inspired you personally or the world in general. Describe his/her achievements and the reasons why they have become so influential. You may use the internet, your books or any other available sources (about 100 words).