

Lesson 23: Finish video *Marion's Triumph*

1 Class Period

Reading Skills: Making Text-to-Text Connections

Purpose:

Marion's Triumph is 49 minutes long – too long for me to show completely in one class period. Winter Break happened just after we finished reading Chapter 7. As I explained in Lesson 13A, I showed the first part of the film immediately after Winter Break as a way to remind the students about the part of Marion's story they had already read before they continued with the rest of the story. This strategy was successful. It allowed a quick review of Chapters 1-7, and it helped re-stimulate the students' interest and motivated them to continue reading. Even if Winter Break had not split the time as it did, I still would break the video into chunks as I did.

During this lesson, I simply wanted the students to finish watching the film and make connections between the book and the film. I did chose to back the film up to a more coherent starting point. I rewound to the point where the family arrived at Bergen-Belsen in hopes of being exchanged for POW's. (This starting point approximately matches Chapter 5 in the book.)

The film goes beyond the book and gives more information about Marion's life including a return trip she made to Germany. Although she was hesitant to do so, she went back to Bergen-Belsen, to Tröbitz, and to Hoya. She had surprising experiences in both Tröbitz and Hoya when she found that local citizens had taken care of the graves of her family members. At the end of the film, she also talks about her choice to have a positive attitude; I think her words are an important lesson for all of us.

Materials Needed:

A VHS or DVD of *Marion's Triumph*

Process:

I did not feel it would be necessary to hold the students accountable for paying attention to the film. They were eager to watch it. Therefore, I did not make any type of note-taking guide for this lesson. I simply asked them to watch and listen closely. We spent a few minutes at the end discussing their questions and the parts of the film they found most striking.