

Worksheet 1
La historia oficial

HOMEWORK (COMPLETE BEFORE CLASS THURSDAY 10/9)

Instructions for viewing film (no subtitles):

- Go to bCourses and click on "Modules" on left side of screen
- Click on module entitled "Memoria histórica"
- Click on link "The Official Story - whole film"
- Duration 112 min (Plan to spend 2 hours on this activity)

1) Describe the main characters as you watch the film. Make a note of anything you think is important (Notes are fine, no need for complete sentences)

Roberto:

Alicia:

Gaby:

Ana:

Benítez:

2) Make a note of any scene or parts you do not understand. Write down the minutes and seconds.

3) What scene had the most emotional impact on you? Why? What elements of the film contributed to your response? Write down the minutes and seconds of the scene.

IN CLASS (THURSDAY 10/9)

- 1) In small groups, each group discusses one of the characters and then presents to class
- 2) This will lead into a discussion of the parts that need clarification - large group
- 3) Discussion of # 3- large group. (The scene that impacts a lot of students the most is when Roberto smashes Alicia's hand in the door)

Worksheet 2
La historia oficial

HOMEWORK (COMPLETE BEFORE CLASS FRIDAY 10/10)

Instructions for viewing clips (available with and without subtitles):

- Go to bCourses and click on “Modules” on left side of screen
- Click on module entitled "Memoria histórica"
- Click on clip title
- Plan to spend 2 hours on this activity

1. Gaby’s birthday party. Answer the following questions:

- A) Why do the boys play this way?
- B) Why does Gaby react the way she does?
- C) How do the boys react to her reaction?
- D) What might this scene represent?

2. Conversation Between Alicia & Ana. Complete any **THREE** of the following activities:

A. Watch the scene of the conversation between Alicia and Ana (parts 1 and 2) **without** sound, paying attention to the body language. What emotions can you identify? Watch it again with sound. What utterances trigger emotional responses? Remember you can slow the sound down.

Emotional response	Utterance

B. Ana mentions “un póster de Gardel” in Part 1. She is referring to Carlos Gardel (1890- 1935). Do some research on the Internet to find out about this historical figure. Also look for some posters in which he appears. Why do you think Ana and Alicia start laughing when Ana mentions the poster? Why do you think this detail might have been included in the film?

C. Watch the video clip **with** sound, paying particular attention to the soundtrack, camera angles and cuts. What effects do these filmic devices achieve in the viewer?

D. Watch the clip and fill in the following chart. In the first column write the infinitive of the verb you hear. In the second column make a note of the narrative event it describes. Finally, check one of the last two columns to indicate whether the action refers to a past or present event. Watch the clip as many times as you need to and remember you can slow it down if you need to.

Verb	Narrative event	Past	Present

What is significant about the way in which Ana interweaves verb tenses? How might we interpret these changes in verb tense?

E. Ana mentions that she wrote about her experience for “la Comisión.” She is referring to the Comisión Nacional de la Desaparición de Personas. Do some research on the Internet to find out about this commission and then answer the following question: How might writing about her experience differ from speaking about it? What role do you think Alicia plays in Ana's confession?

IN CLASS

- 1) Students discuss # 1 in small groups (5-7 min). Then large group discussion (3-5 min)
 - 2) Students redistribute themselves into 5 groups to discuss # 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E (10 min)
- To avoid confusion it is important to anticipate this step: Prepare the following signs ahead of time:
- 2A BODY LANGUAGE
 - 2B GARDEL
 - 2C FILM
 - 2D PRETERITE/IMPERFECT
 - 2E COMISION

Ask who wants to present each question and choose a student to be the "captain" of each group. Choose captains based on their location in the room. There must be enough space between around each one so other students can gather around them. OR Pass out color-coded cards to each student and be ready to help them distribute themselves in the classroom, moving desks, etc.

- 3) Each group presents the answer to their question (10-15 min)
- 4) Large-group discussion: Why is the film called La historia oficial? (Narrativa autorizada (olvidar) versus narrativa personal (recordar) (10 min)