

RECOMMENDED FILM

Courses:	1st and 2nd year ESO
Skill:	SELF-STEEM
Film:	LA VITA É BELLA
Month:	November



FILM INFO

Title: La Vita é Bella

Director: Roberto Benigni

Year: 1993

Quality: 8

Duration: 115 minutes

Production: Italian

Genre: Comedy. Drama

Music: Nicola Piovani



Streaming services where available:



SYNOPSIS:

The film is set in 1939, in Tuscany in Italy. Guido is a happy, innocent man with the soul of a poet. He would like to open a bookshop, but he has to earn his living as a waiter. One day he meets Dora, the beautiful local schoolteacher. He falls in love with her and tries to woo her, his main rival is the leader of the fascist party.

A year later they are married and have a child. However, one day soldiers turn up and take Guido and his son to a concentration camp.

Dora follows them. Once at the camp, Guido, in an attempt to preserve the innocence of his five-year old son makes every effort he can to persuade his son that they are in a strange kind of 'summer camp' and that they are taking part in a game, and so avoid the foreseeable traumas of Nazi horror.

QUOTES FROM THE FILM

"Buon giorno, Principessa!"

"You are serving, but you are not a servant. Service is a supreme art. God is first in serving, God serves all men, but he is not a servant of Man."

"This is my story. This is the sacrifice that my father made. This was his gift to me."

"There is nothing more necessary than the unnecessary."

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QUESTIONS FOR YOUR FILM GROUP

1. What does the film title suggest to you? Do think that it's accurate?
2. Guido and his son are sent to a concentration camp because they are Jews. How would you feel if this happened to you because of your ethnicity or beliefs?
3. Why is Guido an attractive personality? What defines his behaviour? How does he react to the dramatic situations that confront him?
4. After seeing the film, what meaning does the phrase "love overcomes all obstacles" have?
5. Do you believe that having "reasons to live" helps people to overcome life's problems? What are the most important 'reasons for living' for you?