

AE FOND KISS...

I - How well do you remember the characters ?

Match the photos to the name of the characters.

Tahara Khan – Rukhsana Khan – Sadia Khan (Casim's mother) –
Casim Khan – Tariq Khan (Casim's father) – Roisin Hanlon



II - How well do you remember the story ?

Put the sentences of the synopsis in the right order

- When their relationship is discovered, the repercussions of the scandal reach far and wide and threaten personal and professional relationships.
- But Casim knows all too well that, even if he wasn't due to marry, his parents would never accept a 'goree' (a white girl) into their family.
- Casim is a second generation Pakistani from Glasgow who works as a DJ and dreams of buying his own club.
- Casim meets Roisin, a teacher at his sister Tahara's school and, discovering that she is different from any girl he has ever met, gorgeous, smart and independent, the two rapidly fall in love.
- His parents Tariq and Sadia are devout Muslims who have worked hard and struggled against prejudice to educate their three children.
- As a Catholic, Roisin finds that her own community isn't very supportive either.
- They plan for him to marry his cousin Jasmine, who is soon to arrive in the UK.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____ 7. _____

Read the synopsis again and find the words corresponding to these definitions:

deeply religious – fight – intolerance – clever.

Comprehension questions :

- What problems are alluded to in the synopsis ?
- Imagine other problems Casim and Roisin may encounter.

III – The director and the poet



Ken LOACH was born in 1936 in Nuneaton, England. He is one of Britain's most famous directors, whose films mostly deal with social problems. In collaboration with screenwriter Paul LAVERTY, he directed *My Name is Joe* (1998), *Sweet Sixteen* (2002), *Ae Fond Kiss* (2004) and *The Wind That Shakes The Barley* (2006). Ken LOACH's films focus on the problems of ordinary people who are trapped by the system.



Robert BURNS (1759-1796) is considered as Scotland's greatest poet. He was also famous for his numerous love affairs and for freely proclaiming his radical opinions, his sympathies with the common people, and his rebellion against orthodox religion and morality. Among his best-known poems are "Auld Lang Syne", and "Ae Fond Kiss" which has become a traditional song in Scotland. It deals with the tragicomic love episode with Mrs. M'Lehose, the "Clarinda" of the "Sylvander-Clarinda" letters, which ended with Burns's decision to marry Jean Armour with whom he had a liaison which had resulted in the birth of twins, and who had borne him a second set of twins.

- a. Read the two biographies and guess why Ken LOACH called his film *Ae Fond Kiss*.
 b. Read Robert BURNS's song and answer the questions:

**Ae Fond Kiss
(Abridged)**

Ae fond kiss, and then we sever!
 Ae farewell, and then forever!
 Deep in heart-wrung tears I'll pledge thee,
 Warring sighs and groans I'll wage thee.

Fare-thee-weel, thou first and fairest!
 Fare-thee-weel, thou best and dearest!
 Thine be ilka joy and treasure,
 Peace, Enjoyment, Love and Pleasure!

Had we never lov'd sae kindly,
 Had we never lov'd sae blindly,
 Never met - or never parted --
 We had ne'er been broken-hearted.

Ae fond kiss, and then we sever!
 Ae farewell, alas, for ever!
 Deep in heart-wrung tears I'll pledge thee,
 Warring sighs and groans I'll wage thee.

1. This song is about (tick the correct answer)

- Someone going on holiday Someone who has hurt himself badly The parting of two people who love each other

2. Who did Burns write the song about?

- His mother Jean Armour – his wife His girlfriend

3. What name was she known by?

- Clarissa Clarinda Claudia

4. Which word in Verse 1 means part / separate? _____

5. Which three words in Verse 1 tell us that Burns is sad to be apart from his loved one?

- 1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____

6. Translate the words 'broken-hearted' in Verse 2.

7. Burns wrote in the Scots language. Chose the equivalents of the words he used in this song.

- Fare-thee-weel means goodbye and good riddance goodbye
 Ae means one ouch
 Thou means my your

IV - Video time

Get ready

Before watching the video, match each word with its pronunciation. (Write the correct letters in each blank.)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. guy (<i>gars</i>): _____ | 6. Glasgow: _____ |
| 2. unconditional: _____ | 7. amazing (<i>étonnant</i>): _____ |
| 3. Edinburgh: _____ | 8. intimate (<i>annoncer</i>): _____ |
| 4. course: _____ | 9. commute (<i>faire le trajet</i>): _____ |
| 5. bloody (<i>foutu</i>): _____ | 10. overdramatic (<i>théâtral</i>): _____ |

- | | | | |
|---------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------|
| a. ['ɛdmbərə] | d. ['ɪntɪmeɪt] | g. [gɑɪ] | j. [kɔ:s] |
| b. [ə'meɪzɪŋ] | e. ['glɑ:zɡəʊ] | h. [əʊvədrə'mætɪk] | |
| c. ['blʌdɪ] | f. [kə'mju:t] | i. [ˌʌŋkən'dɪʃənəl] | |

FIRST VIEWING

Read the questions in A and B first. Then watch the video and answer them.

A. The characters

1. In which part of the house does the action take place? _____
 2. How many characters are there? _____
 3. Is Tahara sure of herself at the beginning of the sequence? Justify your answer.

 4. What does Tahara show her father ?

 5. Why does Tahara's father get furious?

 6. What does he do before leaving the room?

7. Does Tahara's sister take sides?

8. Why does Tahara burst into tears?

9. Guess what Tahara thinks of her brother's attitude.

B. The filming technique

1. Which shots does the director mainly use to film the sequence? Justify his choice orally.

- long shots full shots medium shots close-ups extreme close-ups

SECOND VIEWING

Read the questions first. Then watch and listen to the video and answer them.

Part 1

C. What good news does Tahara bring her family?

D. Tahara has been offered an "unconditional place". What does it mean?

- Elle est admise sans conditions d'âge.* *Elle est définitivement admise sur dossier.*
 Elle est admise sous réserve de réussite à l'examen d'entrée

E. Which word makes her father react?

F. What does Tahara's father worry about? Justify orally.

- his wife's opinion Tahara's future the opinion of the community

G. Which university have Tahara's brother and sister gone to?

H. What did Tahara go to Edinburgh for?

I. Which adjective applies to Tahara in this passage? Justify orally.

- proud of herself indifferent ironical sarcastic selfish (*égoïste*)

J. What does Tahara's father reproach her with?

Part 2

K. What does Tahara's sister suggest?

L. Guess what Tahara whispers to her brother. Justify orally.

M. Where do Tahara's parents come from?

N. What does Tahara reproach her father with?

O. Which of the following adjectives apply to Tahara's father in this passage?

- understanding intolerant authoritarian broad-minded despotic liberal unprejudiced conventional

P. What does Tahara accuse her brother of?

GOING FURTHER

1. Why does Tahara call Casim a hypocrite?
2. Why doesn't Casim intervene in his sister's favour?
3. Will Tahara eventually attend university in Edinburgh? Will it be easy to do so?
4. Does Tahara's father behave like a Westerner? Justify.