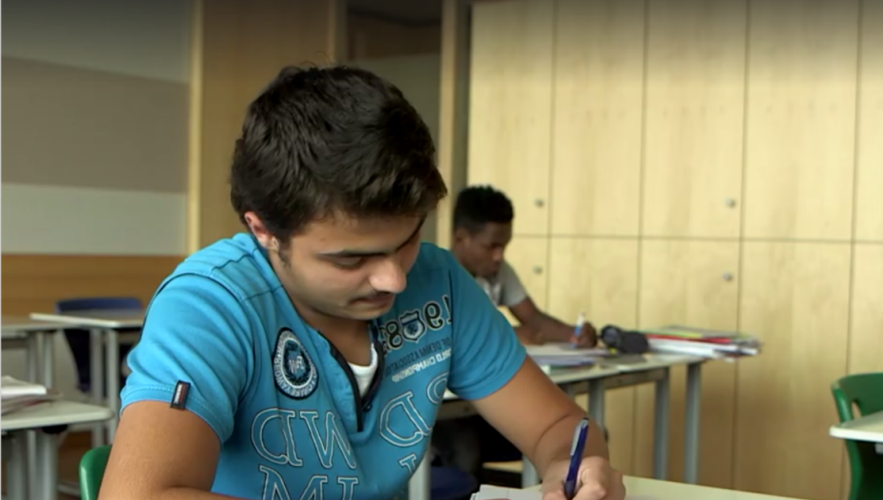# UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

TEACHING ABOUT REFUGEES

AGES 15-18

Lesson Plan for Omar's video story

Watch the video story on
youtube.com/channel/UCy-vai5-kfN3UJWEmORXADQ

Download the video story on
unhcr.org/teaching-about-refugees

ACTIVITY 1

Omar's journey

LEARNING OUTCOMES
Understand what a refugee is. Understand that there are different routes out of danger zones and people will often take the easiest route to find safety. Understand that many people do not wat to leave. Understand that most refugees are located in countries next to the one they have fled from.

STEP 1: Before the video is played, present the following questions to the class in any format you prefer. Dividing the class into small groups and facilitating discussions might work best.

QUESTIONS:

1. Where does Omar come from (country and city) and what other countries has he lived in?

2. Do you know anything about the country and city he comes from and why Omar left?

3. When the conflict started, how quickly did the family consider leaving?

4. Take a map and see if you can trace Omar's journey from his home town to where he lives now.

STEP 2: Provide the following information after watching the video.

"In fact, Omar's family fled to Jordan and then qualified to be resettled by the Luxembourg government as refugees in Luxembourg. They were resettled with three other families in 2015 and have been re-building their lives in Luxembourg since. This means they flew from Jordan to Luxembourg. Other refugees from Syria, however, have a long and challenging journey to find themselves in a safe situation where they can begin to build a new life."

STEP 3: What other cities have you heard of in Syria? Can you map the different routes people might take to safety from these cities in Syria? Which countries might they go to in order to find safety? Have a look at this map and type in any cities you know to see if you can find them.

STEP 4: Have a look at the video "Where do refugees go?" to understand more about the movement of people fleeing conflict.

ACTIVITY 2

Work and School

LEARNING OUTCOMES
Understand that Omar is an ordinary young man who has had some extraordinary experiences. Empathize with the situation his life has put him in.

Before the video is played, present the following questions to the class in any format you prefer. Dividing the class into small groups and facilitating discussions might work best.

QUESTIONS:

1. Do you have a job or do you know anyone of your age that has a job? What kind of work do you or they do?

2. If you don't have a job, when do you think you will get one and what do you think you will do?

3. Omar did a number of odd jobs in Jordan to earn money to help feed his family. Can you list these jobs?

4. Omar mentioned he was paid little money for this work. Review the section of the video where he talks about this period of his life.

Why do you think he was paid so little, how do you feel about this? Do you know any people who live near you that you think might be paid less for a similar reason?

5. Omar is back at school now. How does he appear to feel about school? Does he look comfortable there?

6. How do you think he feels about the jobs he may have in the future? Do you think they could be similar to jobs you might have?

ACTIVITY 3

Compare & contrast – Thinking creatively & critically

LEARNING OUTCOMES
Encourage critical and creative thinking so that the students can empathize with Omar's situation.

Ask the students to take any of the topics listed on the right and review the section where Omar talks about them.

Ask them to write a reflection, song, piece of music or poem, prepare a speech or create a piece of artwork or a design piece that reflects the differences between their experience of that topic and Omar's experience.

They might think or find that there is no difference at all or they might find a big difference between their perception of it and Omar's perception.

- Fitness
- Cameras
- Work
- Fitting in to a new place
- School
- Friends and socializing
- His parents