







'300 Miles to Heaven' – is a Polish drama directed by Maciej Dejczer. It's a story based on true events. Two teenagers escape Poland in PRL times under the chassis of a lorry in search of a better life in the West.

The story in a nutshell:

Two brothers, Jędrek and Grzesiek, come from a very poor family. Their father, Tadeusz, is a history teacher who loses his job because of his political beliefs. So one day the boys decide to help their parents by making money, they illegally run away from communist Poland to the West. The boys escape by hiding under a lorry. After a long and difficult journey, the boys manage to reach Denmark where they claim asylum. They feel very lonely, until a Polish journalist arranges a phone call for the boys with their parents. Just before the call, the parents learn that they have lost their parental rights.

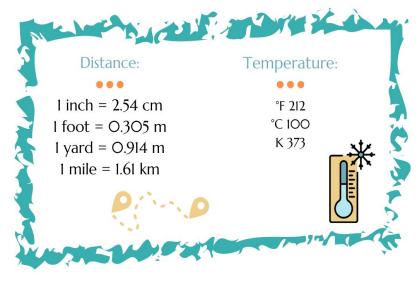


Note: At those times it was very difficult for ordinary people to get a passport and be able to travel to countries outside the Eastern Bloc (countries under the influence of the Soviet Union).

Before you watch:

Imagine yourself in a foreign country, without your family, without a mobile phone, not knowing the language, and you are in a refugee camp ... you've just got the one chance to use the telephone on the reception desk to call your parents.









Task 1

a) Translate the underlined Polish words and phrases in the dialogue into English.

Jędrek: 1) Dlaczego Pani nas holuje?

Dziennikarka: 2) Jak to <u>czemu</u>? Bo jesteście 3) <u>wspaniali!</u> Pokazaliście, że nie ma 4) <u>granic</u>. Nikogo 5) <u>nie</u>

musicie całować po rękach. [dzwoni telefon ...]

Dziennikarka: Halo, Pani Kwiatkowska? 6) Chwileczkę. 7) Mów!

Jędrek: Mamo.

Mama: Jędrek! Jak się czujecie? 8) Wesołych Świąt, chłopcy!



Jędrek: 1)	are you helping	us?
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4) You showed that there are no ______. 5) You ______ beg for anybody's

permission. [The phone rings ...]

Journalist: Hello, Mrs Kwiatkowska? 6) . 7) !

Jedrek: Mum.

Mother: Jedrek! How are you? 8) ______, boys!





REMEMBER

- ma'am a polite form to address a woman
- Madam a polite form to address a woman
- Mrs a married woman
- Ms a married or unmarried woman
- Miss an unmarried woman
- Mr a married or unmarried man
- Sir a polite form to address a man







b) Read the Polish dialogue then complete the English translation with words from the table.

Jędrek: Mamo? Dar	ny sobie radę, mamo.
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Mama: A nie jest wam tam zimno?

Jędrek: Uważaj na siebie. Ucałuj bliźniaki. A tata?

Mama: A Grześ?

Jędrek: Jest tutaj. Wszystko w porządku? Daj mi tatę. Nie chce rozmawiać...? Co ci jest mamo?

Mama: Nic, nic, nic. Mów synku. Mów.

Jędrek: Powiedz mu, że go kocham... bardzo. Niech się nie martwi. I jeszcze... wysłaliśmy wam pieniądze.

Mamo, co ci jest? Co ci jest mamo?

Jędrek: Mum? We'll 1) ______ it, mum.

Grześ: Mama?

about	wrong	kiss	give	cold
want	make	worry	talk	tell
care	speak	here	from	everything

Mother: Aren't you 2)	there?		
Jędrek: Take 3)	of yourself. 4)	the twins 5)	me. Is dad there?
Mother: How 6)	Grześ?		
Jędrek: He's 7)	Is 8)	all right? 9)	me dad.
He doesn't 10)	to 11)	? What's 12)	mum?
Mother: Nothing, not	hing, nothing. 13)	, son. Speak.	
Jędrek: 14)	him that I love him	n very much. Tell him not to	0
15)	. And yet we sent you some	money. Mum, what's wrong	g with you? Are you OK, mum?
Grześ: Mummy?			
c) Watch the film clip	o and rearrange the dialogu	e in the correct order.	
1	a) Grześ: Mummy, we'll get as	sylum soon.	
2	b) Father: Jędrek? Jędrek, Ne	ver come back here! Do you	hear me? Hello? Hello!
3	c) Mother: No, no, I don't kno	ow. Yes, yes.	
4	d) Mother: In a youth detenti	on centre.	
5	e) Jędrek: Mum, do you want	us to stay here?	
6	f) Jędrek: In a youth detention	n centre?	
7	g) Jędrek: And what about Elk	ka?	





Vocabulary: Translate.

- heaven -
- in a nutshell -
- to believe in sth -
- a belief -
- to learn sth -
- under the influence of -
- a refugee camp -
- a refugee -
- to beg -
- permission -
- to suck up to sb -
- a youth detention centre -
- to emigrate from -
- to immigrate to -
- to migrate -
- to flee -
- persecution -
- to seek asylum -
- an asylum seeker –
- to be detained -

- a lorry –
- a chassis -
- a better life -
- to claim asylum –
- to get asylum -
- parental rights -
- a foreign country -
- to imagine -
- a border -
- a boundary –
- to make it -
- to take care of sb -
- to cross the border -
- to be protected by -
- international law -
- to apply for citizenship -
- a residence permit -
- a benefit -
- to be inquisitive –
- a host country –

Task 2

Word formation. Complete the following sentences with the proper form of the given word.

1. The screenplay for '300 N	files to Heaven' was	by Dejczer and Harasimowicz.	WRITE
2. What are his political	?		BELIEVE
3. The boys were	under the chassis.		HIDE
4. They crossed the border	I'm surprised th	ey weren't caught.	LEGAL
5. 'Who	'300 Miles to Heaven'?' 'Maciej Dej	czer.'	DIRECT
6. He doesn't feel	, he has a lot of friends he	ere.	LONE
7. The	was very inquisitive.		JOURNAL
8. After claiming asylum, th	ey became asylum	<u>_</u> .	SEEK





9. Be quiet, say		THING	
10. Denmark is!		WONDER	
Task 3			
Respond to the definitions. The number	of dashes (-) corresponds to the n	umber of letters in the	
missing word/s.			
1. A person who claims asylum.		asylum s	
2. curious		i	
3. profit		b	
4. a short form to address a married woman	n	M	
5. A person who is a legal member of a cou	ntry.	c	
6. A country where asylum seekers live.		h c	
7. Two children born from the same mothe	r at the same time.	t	
8. The bottom part of a lorry.		c	
9. A line that divides two countries.		b	
10. A person who leaves his/her homeland	because of war/natural disaster.	r	
Task 4			
Choose the correct option form a, b or c		2==	
1. Why is he helping?			
a) we	b) our	c) us	
2. Take care yourself.			
a) of	b) with	c) in	
3. Nobody could understand why they have	their parental rights.		
a) lose	b) loose	c) lost	
4. They were dreaming of living in a/an country.			
a) strange	b) foreign	c) alien	
5. 'What do you 'why'?'			
a) mine	b) mean	c) mind	
6. Will they manage to the border?			
a) across	b) pass	c) cross	
7. The boys left Poland in of a better life.			
a) search	b) seek	c) browse	





8. Hold ______, I'll call him.

١.	
つり	 n
a	 L

c) for

9. If you didn't have a passport, you wouldn't be ______ to travel abroad.

a) enable

b) disable

c) able

10. He was detained by the police because he was driving _____ the influence of alcohol.

a) under

b) below

c) before

Task 5

Translate the underlined parts of the sentences into Polish.

- 1. We are just ordinary people.
- 2. She was really upset when she learnt that her suitcase was missing.
- 3. I promise you, we'll make it!
- 4. The influence of war on the economy is really visible.
- 5. Don't worry, we'll get asylum soon.
- 6. During communism Poland belonged to the **Eastern Bloc**.
- 7. We got <u>permission</u> to take part in this conference.
- 8. I'm so cold that my teeth are chattering.
- 9. The Soviet Union collapsed in 1991.
- 10. He spent all his childhood in a detention centre he was a very naughty boy.
- 11. I'm putting you through, hold on.
- 12. I don't want to fall asleep so speak to me.



- 1. What comes to your mind when you hear the word 'a refugee'?
- 2. Why do people become refugees?
- 3. Are there many refugees in your country?
- 4. Why did they flee their homeland?
- 5. What are their basic needs in a new country?
- 6. How are the needs different for children and adults?
- 7. What rights do they have in their new country?
- 8. What should refugees do to adapt to a foreign country?









Internet investigation. [What happened to the actual boys the film is based on?]

Answer the following questions:

- 1. Which country did they go to in a real life?
- 2. Did they get asylum?
- 3. Did they stay together?
- 4. What education did they get?
- 5. Where are they living now?

For sloths only :-)



CLICK ME



CLICK ME



If you want to know more about those times, watch:

1. Click me: TRAILER



Click me: 'Ostatni dzwonek' FILM

(The Last Schoolbell) – a psychological drama by Magdalena Łazarkiewicz.

2. Click me. TRAILER



Click me: 'Ostatni prom' FILM

(The Last Ferry) – a drama by Waldemar Krzystek.





POLSKI TEKST

Jędrek: Dlaczego Pani nas holuje?

Dziennikarka: Jak to czemu? Bo jesteście wspaniali! Pokazaliście, że nie ma granic. Nikogo nie musicie

całować po rekach. [dzwoni telefon ...]

Dziennikarka: Halo, Pani Kwiatkowska? Chwileczkę. Mów!

Jędrek: Mamo.

Mama: Jędrek! Jak się czujecie? Wesołych Świąt chłopcy!

Jedrek: Mamo? Damy sobie rade, mamo.

Mama: A nie jest wam tam zimno?

Jędrek: Uważaj na siebie. Ucałuj bliźniaki. A tata?

Mama: A Grześ?

Jędrek: Jest tutaj. Wszystko w porządku? Daj mi tatę. Nie chce rozmawiać ...? Co ci jest mamo?

Mama: Nic, nic, nic. Mów synku. Mów.

Jędrek: Powiedz mu, że go kocham ... bardzo. Niech się nie martwi. I jeszcze ... wysłaliśmy wam pieniądze.

Mamo, co ci jest? Co ci jest mamo?

Grześ: Mama?

Jędrek: A co z Elką?

Mama: W poprawczaku.

Jędrek: W poprawczaku?

Grześ: Mamo, niedługo dostaniemy azyl.

Jędrek: Mamo, czy chcecie, żebyśmy tutaj zostali?

Mama: Nie, nie, nie wiem. Tak, tak.

Tata: Jędrek? Jędrek, nie wracajcie tu nigdy! Słyszysz?! Halo? Halo!





ENGLISH TEXT

Jędrek: Why are you helping us?

Journalist: What do you mean 'why'? Because you are wonderful! You showed that there are no boundaries

(borders). You don't have to beg for anybody's permission. [The phone rings ...]

Journalist: Hello, Mrs Kwiatkowska? Hold on. Speak!

Jędrek: Mum.

Mother: Jędrek! How are you? Merry Christmas boys!

Jedrek: Mum? We'll make it, mum.

Mother: Aren't you cold there?

Jedrek: Take care of yourself. Kiss the twins from me. Is dad there?

mother: How about Grześ?

Jedrek: He's here. Is everything all right? Give me dad. He doesn't want to talk ...? What's wrong mum?

Mother: Nothing, nothing, nothing. Speak, son. Speak.

Jędrek: Tell him that I love him ... very much. Tell him not to worry. And yet ... we sent you some money.

Mum, what's wrong with you? Are you OK, mum?

Grześ: Mummy?

Jędrek: And what about Elka?

Mother: In a youth detention centre.

Jedrek: In a youth detention centre?

Grześ: Mummy, we'll get asylum soon.

Jedrek: Mum, do you want us to stay here?

Mother: No, no, I don't know. Yes, yes.

Father: Jedrek? Jedrek, Never come back here! Do you hear me? Hello? Hello!





KEY:

Task 1

Before you watch:

What is 300 miles in km?

(483 km)

a)

1) Why/us

2) why

3) wonderful

4) boundaries (borders)

5) don't have to

6) Hold on

7) Speak

8) Merry Christmas

b)

1) make

6) about

11) talk

2) cold

7) here

12) wrong

3) care

8) everything

13) Speak

4) Kiss

9) Give

14) Tell

5) from

15) worry

10) want

c)

1. g

5. e

2. d

6. c

3. f

7. b

4. a

Task 2

1. written

2. beliefs

3. hiding

4. illegally 5. directed 6. lonely

7. journalist

8. seekers

9. nothing

10. wonderful





Task 3

1. seeker 6. host country

2. inquisitive 7. twins

3. benefit 8. chassis

4. Mrs 9. border

5. citizen 10. refugee

Task 4

1. c 6. c

2. a 7. a

3. c 8. b

4. b 9. c

5. b 10. a

Task 5

1. zwykłymi 5. dostaniemy azyl 9. Związek Radziecki

2. dowiedziała się 6. bloku wschodniego 10. w poprawczaku

3. damy radę 7. pozwolenie 11. poczekaj

4. wpływ 8. tak zimno 12. mów

Speaking: Internet investigation

1. Sweden.

2. Yes.

3. No. They were adopted by two different families.

4. Krzysztof graduated in Economic Studies, and he obtained a PhD. He worked as a university lecturer in Stockholm.

5. Adam Zieliński (the older one) stayed in Sweden and had a family. Krzysztof came back to Poland and lives in Warsaw.





Vocabulary: Translate.

- heaven niebo
- in a nutshell w skrócie
- to believe in sth wierzyć w coś
- a belief poglad, przekonanie
- to learn sth dowiedzieć się o czymś
- under the influence of pod wypływem czegoś
- a refugee camp obóz dla uchodźców
- a refugee uchodźca
- to beg błagać
- permission pozwolenie
- to suck up to sb podlizywać się
- a youth detention centre poprawczak
- to emigrate from emigrować z
- to immigrate to imigrować do
- to migrate migrować (np. ptaki)
- to flee uciekać
- persecution prześladowanie
- to seek asylum ubiegać się o status uchodźcy
- an asylum seeker osoba starająca się o azyl
- to be detained zostać zatrzymanym
- a host country państwo goszczące

- a lorry ciężarówka
- a chassis podwozie



- a better life lepsze życie
- to claim asylum ubiegać się o azyl
- to get asylum dostać azyl
- parental rights prawa rodzicielskie
- a foreign country obcy, inny kraj
- to imagine wyobrażać sobie
- a border granica (państwa)
- a boundary granica (mentalna, pomiędzy strefami, rejonami)
- to make it dać radę
- to take care of sb opiekować się kimś
- to cross the border przekroczyć granicę
- to be protected by być chronionym przez
- international law prawo międzynarodowe
- to apply for citizenship ubiegać się o obywatelstwo
- a residence permit pozwolenie na pobyt stały
- a benefit zasiłek
- to be inquisitive być dociekliwym