

Curs 2014 - 15

# Desert Flower

**Nivells:** 3 i 4 ESO / Batxillerats / C. Formatius / C. de Formació d'Adults. **Àrees:** Llengua anglesa / Ciències socials, geografia i història / Educació per a la ciutadania i els drets humans / Educació ètica cívica / Món contemporani / Història / Cultura audiovisual. Cinema. TV. Fotografia. **Temes:** Dones. Violència de gènere / Adaptació cinematogràfica d'obra literària / Sexualitat / Diversitat cultural. Immigració. Emigració / Riquesa i pobresa / Infància. Drets dels infants / Geografia Humana / Antropologia. Etnografia / Biografies / El món del treball / Relacions humanes / Família.



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## Suggeriments per al professorat

El dossier que us fem arribar conté un seguit d'activitats per treballar amb l'alumnat dins l'aula abans o després de la projecció. Aquestes activitats són opcionals, deixant al vostre criteri, a partir del coneixement real que teniu del vostre alumnat, la manera de treballar el film.

### Direcció i concepció gràfica:

Cinema per a estudiants

### Activitats i adaptació de textos:

Abel Gálvez i José Pica

## Índex d'activitats

**Fitxa tècnica i artística; sinopsi** .....

**Pàgines**

**2**

### English activities

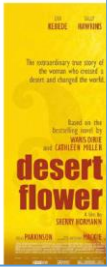
1. The plot of the film. Reading Comprehension .....	<b>3 - 4</b>
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5. Fashion Accesories. Unscramble the letters of the words .....	<b>9 - 10</b>
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**FIXA TÈCNICA I ARTÍSTICA**

**Direcció:** Sherry Hormann. **Interpretació:** Lya Kebede (Waris Dirie), Sally Hawkins (Marilyn), Timothy Spall (Terry Donaldson), Juliet Stevenson (Lucinda), Craig Parkinson (Neil), Anthony Mackie (Harold), Meera Syal (Pushpa), Soraya Omar-Siegó (Waris de nena). **Què:** Sherry Hormann, a partir de la novel·la autobiogràfica de Waris Dirie. **Producció:** Peter Hermann, Málkja, Martin Todsharow. **Fotografia:** Ken Kelsch. **Muntatge:** Clara Faery. **Disseny de producció:** Jamie Leonard. **Vestuari:** Gabriele Binder. **Gènere:** Drama. **Països:** Alemanya, Àustria i França. **Anys:** 2009. **Durada:** 124 min.

**SINOPSIS**

Basada en la novel·la autobiogràfica de Waris Dirie, una dona nascuda a Somàlia entre pastors nòmades que es va convertir en una de les models més sol·licitades de la seva època. Dirie va recórrer un camí molt difícil fins a trepitjar les passarel·les més famoses i ser portada de les millors revistes de moda. Als 5 anys va partir una abducció, als 13 anys va fugir d'un casament de conveniència i va caminar dies pel desert abans d'arribar a Mogadiscio, capital de Somàlia. Allà, els seus parents la van enviar a treballar com a criada a l'ambaixada del seu país a Londres, on va passar l'adolescència sense saber llegir ni escriure. Abans de tornar a un país destrossat per la guerra, va preferir romandre il·legalment a Londres i treballar de dependenta i descobriren



**ACTIVITY ONE - THE PLOT OF THE FILM**

Desert Flower is an amazing survival story of escape and endurance. Waris Dirie escaped from Somalia into the busy streets of London. From being a desert nomad, she became an international supermodel.

**WHERE OR WHO?**

Read the plot of the film then read these sentences. Could you write the name of the person or place described in each sentence?

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ decides to marry her daughter Waris to an older man.
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ runs away from her family.
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ is the city where Waris finds her grandmother.
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_ is the city where Waris will get a job in an embassy.
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_ works in a shop and helps Waris.
- 6. \_\_\_\_\_ wants to take photographs of a new face.
- 7. \_\_\_\_\_ is fascinated by Waris' beauty.
- 8. \_\_\_\_\_ is the landlady of the boarding house.
- 9. \_\_\_\_\_ meets Waris in London but lives in New York.
- 10. \_\_\_\_\_ is a fashion agent who will show a new model to the world.

At the age of 13, Waris Dirie discovers that her father has decided to marry her off as the fourth wife to a considerably older man. So, the young girl realises that she has no choice but to escape.

In the middle of the night, she runs away from the desert camp of her nomadic Somali desert. After a long and hard journey, she arrives in Mog. There, she finds her aunt and grandmother in the chaotic activity of the city.

Her relatives find her a job as a milliner with distant relatives. There, she lives for several years completely cut off from the outside world. She breaks out in Somalia and the Somali embassy closes down. At this time, she meets the lovely and clever sales assistant Marilyn, who be-

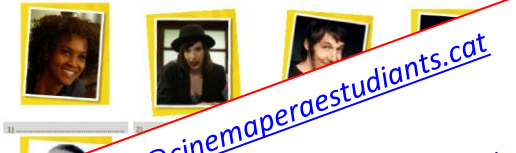
Marilyn takes Waris to her boarding house and there she meets the kind British controller Heck, who is fascinated by Waris' natural beauty. In English, losing her fear to walk into the streets on her own.

One day, while she was working as a cleaning woman in a fast-food restaurant, she catches the attention of famous fashion photographer Terry Donaldson. After some pictures of her. From that moment on, it's as if a fairy tale has come to life for Waris. She is introduced to fashion agent Lucinda and fashion shows. Waris ultimately becomes a well-known international model. She is the most famous Somali in the world.

However, after years of success, Waris refuses to repeat her Cinderella story in Marie Claire magazine. Instead, she chooses to tell the story of her day of her circumcision in the Somali desert at the time.

**ACTIVITY TWO - THE CHARACTERS OF DESERT FLOWER**

Here you have the pictures of the protagonists of the film. Read the plot again and see if you can write the names under the correct pictures: Marilyn - young Waris - Harold Jackson - Pushpa Patel - adult Waris Dirie - Terry Donaldson - Lucinda - Neil



**ACTIVITY THREE - A DANGEROUS JOURNEY**

Waris' amazing adventure starts when she runs away from her family camp to the capital of Somalia.

These are the different steps of her desert adventure and the dangers she came across. Write full sentences in the Present Perfect Tense, both Affirmative and Negative.

Follow this example:

ESCAPE → I HAVE ESCAPED from my family camp in the desert.



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- 1- I (walk) \_\_\_\_\_ across the desert for several days.
- 2- I (climb) \_\_\_\_\_ hills in the dry land.
- 3- I (sleep) \_\_\_\_\_ on a balm.
- 4- I (eat) \_\_\_\_\_ plants and fruits.
- 5- I (not drink) \_\_\_\_\_ water.
- 6- I (hurt) \_\_\_\_\_ my feet.
- 7- I (not talk) \_\_\_\_\_ to anyone.
- 8- I (feel) \_\_\_\_\_ alone.
- 9- I (find) \_\_\_\_\_ a road.
- 10- I (ask) \_\_\_\_\_ for help.
- 11- I (kill) \_\_\_\_\_ a snake.
- 12- I (arrive) \_\_\_\_\_ in Mogadiscio.

**ACTIVITY FOUR - MOVIE SHOTS**

On the next page, you can see some movie shots and moments of the filming process.

Can you match the pictures to the descriptions?

- A. Being Photographed: Waris Dirie is photographed by fashion photographer Terry Donaldson in his studio. He discovered Dirie while she was working as a cleaning woman in a fast-food restaurant in London. Dirie was initially uncomfortable being photographed.
- B. A New Life: Actress Lya Kebede portrays Waris Dirie as a young girl who is a member of a nomadic family who is homeless in London to become a model.
- C. Sherry Hormann: Sherry Hormann is the director of the film.

Si us interessa aquest dossier i el solucionari de les preguntes en PDF, poseu-vos en contacte amb nosaltres a: [info@cinemaperaestudiants.cat](mailto:info@cinemaperaestudiants.cat)  
Preu dels dos documents: 5 €  
Si os interesa este dossier y el solucionario de las preguntas en PDF, poneros en contacto con nosotros en: [info@cinemaperaestudiants.cat](mailto:info@cinemaperaestudiants.cat)  
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- 5) GHITN SEDRES
- 6) IHHG LEEHD OSOHE
- 7) DABANGH
- 8) RIAH YEEDR

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- 9) CRASAAM

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am - is - fits - is - are - is - help - have - try - like - am looking for - take - pay - follow - accept - are - is - try - is

Shop assistant: Hello, can I 1) \_\_\_\_\_ you?  
Customer: Yes, please. I 2) \_\_\_\_\_ a T-shirt.  
Shop assistant: 3) \_\_\_\_\_ me, please. What 4) \_\_\_\_\_ your size?  
Customer: Medium.  
Shop assistant: What colour would you 5) \_\_\_\_\_?  
Customer: Black.  
Shop assistant: Here you 6) \_\_\_\_\_.  
Customer: Can I 7) \_\_\_\_\_ this 10) \_\_\_\_\_?  
Shop assistant: Yes, of course. The changing rooms 8) \_\_\_\_\_ here.  
Customer: It 9) \_\_\_\_\_ too small.  
Shop assistant: This one 10) \_\_\_\_\_ larger. 11) \_\_\_\_\_ it on.  
Customer: It 12) \_\_\_\_\_ well. How much 13) \_\_\_\_\_ it?  
Shop assistant: Nine pounds ninety.  
Customer: It 14) \_\_\_\_\_ it. Can I 15) \_\_\_\_\_ by credit card?  
Shop assistant: I 16) \_\_\_\_\_ afraid we only 17) \_\_\_\_\_ cash. Sorry.  
Customer: No problem. Here you are. Thank you.  
Shop assistant: Here 18) \_\_\_\_\_ your receipt. 19) \_\_\_\_\_ a nice day.

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**ACTIVITY SEVEN - AUTHENTIC READING: FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION**

Waris Dirie revealed in an interview that she had been subjected to female circumcision when she was a child in Somalia. After her revelation, UN Secretary-General Kofi Anan appointed her as a UN Special Ambassador.

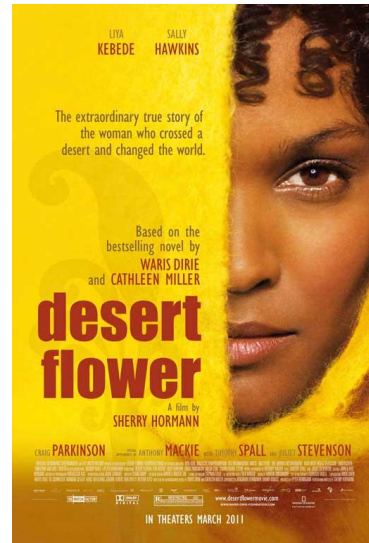
Dirie now travels the globe for the UN and has created the Desert Flower Foundation to raise public awareness against female genital mutilation worldwide. The text on the next page has been taken from its website. It gives information about this dangerous practice in many African countries, as well as in Europe.

Read the text, and these statements carefully and then choose the correct answer.



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- 1) Female Genital Mutilations is performed in girls...
  - a. That are teenagers
  - b. That are below ten years old
  - c. That voluntarily ask for this operation
- 2) The objective of Female Genital Mutilation is...
  - a. To prevent unwanted pregnancies
  - b. To prevent sexually transmitted illnesses
  - c. To stop women from having sexual feelings.
- 3) Female Genital Mutilation...
  - a. Only happens in Africa
  - b. Doesn't happen in Europe
  - c. Takes place in different countries around the world.
- 4) Female Genital Mutilation affects...
  - a. Less than a million women.
  - b. More than one hundred million women.
  - c. 500.000 women.
- 5) There are ... different types of Female Genital Mutilation.
  - a. Three
  - b. Four
  - c. Two
- 6) Female Genital Mutilation is performed...
  - a. Only in hospitals under hygienic circumstances
  - b. Only by doctors or nurses
  - c. In anti-hygienic conditions and without anaesthetics.
- 7) ... women affected by FGM live in Great Britain.
  - a. 75.000
  - b. 65.000
  - c. 30.000
- 8) Only ... has a law against FGM.
  - a. Great Britain
  - b. France
  - c. Germany



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