

Us and them

“Good fences make good neighbours” is a quote from the play *Us and them* written by David Campton in 1985. This sentence sums up the content and central theme quite well. It deals with the mistrust between humans and the need to isolate and separate themselves from each other because of their selfishness. The play shows the source of conflict between two parties arriving at a newly discovered place. They both claim the territory for themselves. Instead of living with each other, they build a wall and begin to grow suspicious. The author criticizes society on their inability to take responsibility and admit their mistakes, which ends in destruction.

The message can be applied in many different situations. There are lots of ways to perform the play. That is why our English teacher Ms. Männel gave us the task to create our own version of the play. In groups of six we took the task upon us and began debating on how to tackle the matter. My group (Moritz, Dustin, Leo, Anou and Pepe) got assigned to rewrite the beginning part of the play. We thought of a concept, where the play takes place in the future on a far away planet. The two parties are the Mandalorians and Trendoscaners, species unknown to us. The plot stays the same, two parties want the same land, decide to split it up and build a wall, which leads to suspicion and mistrust.

We rewrote the text to make it more fitting for our situation. Besides we added a new role, the audience mediator. He resembles the recorder, but points out the moral of the story and takes judgement in the situation, while the recorder stays neutral.

How we portrayed the rest, you will just have to see for yourself.





This task was a lot of fun, because we had the oppurtonity to be creative and come up with our own ideas. We had a lot of free play, which gave us a lot of freedom in our play. Although sometimes we had some differences, we always managed to work it out and create our own little play, which we are really proud of.

Lysann