

The Wind that shakes the Barley, Ken Loach

The Wind That Shakes the Barley is a 2006 Ken Loach film set during the Irish War of Independence (1919–21) and the Irish Civil War (1922–3). **Written** by long-time Loach collaborator Paul Laverty, this drama tells the story of two County Cork brothers, **played** by Cillian Murphy and Pádraic Delaney, who join the Irish Republican Army (IRA) to fight for Irish independence from Great Britain.

Widely **praised**, the film won the Palme d'Or at the 2006 Cannes Film Festival and remains Loach's biggest **box office success** to date.

Ireland, 1920: workers from field and country unite to form volunteer guerrilla units to face the ruthless “Black and Tan” squads that are being shipped from Britain to block Ireland’s bid for independence.

Driven by a deep sense of duty and a love for his country, Damien (Cillian Murphy) abandons his burgeoning career as a doctor and joins his brother, Teddy, in a dangerous and violent fight for freedom. As the freedom fighters’ bold tactics bring the British to breaking point, both sides finally agree to a treaty to end the bloodshed.

*But, despite the apparent victory, civil war erupts and families, who fought side by side, find themselves **pitted** against one another as **sworn** enemies, putting their loyalties to the ultimate test.*



1. Read the text and **highlight** all the words you understand. Then, find the next information:

Film director	
Actors	
Characters, roles	
Places	
Dates and events in the story	
Plot outline	

2. Proposez une traduction pour chaque mot fléché:

“families, who fought side by side, find themselves pitted against one another as sworn enemies”

-proposez une traduction pour la phrase ci-dessus :

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3. Now, try to sum up the information you have just gathered:

The movie trailer:

1. Write the name of the character below the corresponding picture:



1.



2.



3.

Name:			
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2. Write the name of the character who pronounces the corresponding sentences from the trailer:

Name:	Sentence:
	“Michael was killed because he wouldn’t say his name in English, is that what you call a martyr Teddy, is it?”
	“You wish we all buy a one way ticket to London, is that it Damien?”
	“Don’t do anything stupid Damien!”
	“I’ve received orders to execute these boys”
	“I’ve crossed the line now Sinead”
	“They take one out, we take one back”
	“The most powerful country in the world threatens war”

3. How do you understand:

-one-way ticket to London:

-threaten:

4. At the beginning of the extract, what is Damien doing?

-Fill in the blanks:

“I do solemnly that to the of my ability, I will and the government of the”

5. Read the words below and practise pronouncing them:

acclaimed violence brothers director conflict story defiance
 love hatred sacrifice rebellion weapons nation independence

-Now, pay attention to the commentator’s voice. Underline the words you recognise.

-Can you repeat the commentator’s line?