Margarita Kirilkina

- 1. The protagonist of the film My Australia is a small boy Tadek. Even if he is a negative character at the beginning, but we can see that he is still a pure child and to be negative is not his own choice, he is influenced by his older brother Andrzej and his gang. Also exactly Tadek goes through a big change along the film. Thereby Andrzej is the antagonist here as he represents an opposition to Tadek, while he is trying to change.
- 2. Tadek's dramatic need is just to be like others what he even says to his mother while being in kibutz. His understanding of good and evil is very innocent. As he is still very small boy he is not able to see the complexity of that dichotomy and he takes it as the majority in his environment. When environment changes his views changes also very quickly, unlike his older brother's views who is already very strong with his ideas. Andrzej in kibutz becomes a minority and he stops to be an authority for Tadek, more over brothers turns to almost enemies. We see that Tadek becomes more grown up, he stops to behave just by impulses and even tries to change his brother, but Andrej stays the same stubborn. Tadek's adulthood starts already from the first days being in Israel he helps his mother to find a job, supports her and she takes him as an equal. In the end of the film we see how he transformed from a little boy whom he was in a Poland to a grown up individuality whom he became in Israel.
- 4. Australia in the film uses by characters as a fictional space. This space is created as an ideal one especially for Tadek: his game takes place in Australia, he thinks that his aunt sends him presents from there, then he is told that his family moves to there and after when he appears in Israel, already in kibutz, he proposes his brother to escape to the real Australia. So for him Ausralia is not a real country but mostly the happier place.
- 5. Icons and symbols carrying by different characters in the film shows to others and also to viewers their values. Sometimes it uses to promote empathy as in a scene with mother and policeman at the beginning. She kisses a small cross on a chain on her neck and it becomes the last motive for policemen to release her children from a jail. Or when we see that Tadek prays to his catholic icon we start to believe to his innocence. But sometimes it provokes conflict and opposition as in a case with swastika on Andrej's belt or star of David on a russian boy on a boat. The last symbol in a film miniature of Torah which mother gives to Tadek as a present. Tadek happily takes it and that becomes a sign of his values big transformation.