

Chapter 2 Quiz

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1. Explain how and why Muybridge shot his first film.

He used a technique of using still photographs projected onto a screen. He was helping the Governor of California, Leland Stanford, settle a bet by filming a running horse. He used 40 still cameras rigged with trip wires to capture images. Then he ran them all together and projected them onto a screen

2. How did sound synchronization affect the film industry?

Sound synchronization had a great effect in the industry. Sound on film was not completely accepted by directors and actors at the time. Most of the lost their careers as producers brought new directors and actors with stage experience. Musicals and gangster films were two new genres that were favorites due to this changes.

3. How and why the Golden Age on Hollywood end?

In the 50's the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HUAC) blacklisted hundreds of actors, producers, directors and industry professionals. Also the introduction of television lead to the film industry attempting wild stunts to get the audience back in the theater seats.

4. What is the significance of the French New Wave?

The French New Wave brought films focused on current social issues, social and political upheavals. Editing experiments, new visual styles and narrative.

5. Define Genre and explain why it is important.

Genre is the categorization of art. It is the difference between story types and how they are told. As a director, finding out which is your genre will help focus on how to tell your stories.

6. Compare and contrast Drama and Comedy.

The Greeks were the firsts to define the two basic genres, Drama and Comedy. Drama depends mostly on in-deph character development, interaction, and highly emotional themes. Comedies depends on characters that are funny in and of themselves and the characters often find themselves in difficult but humorous situations.

7. Explain why romance films always show the protagonist going through pain and rejection initially.

The protagonist in a romance film goes through pain and rejection on the first parts of the film to help develop the romantic story and connect with the audience so at the end the love story feels that much sweeter.

MY STORY

-What is your theme?

Drama / Mystery.

-What is the primary conflict?

A son is trying to solve the mystery of who killed his mother. His father is the only suspect but the son feels his father is being framed.

-Who / what is the antagonist?

The father

-What are the key plot points of your story?

The son goes through many dangerous events trying to solve this mystery, at the end he finds out that his dad was actually responsible of killing his mother.

FILMS

IDENTITY (2003)

1. Who is the protagonist of this film?

Malcom Rivers (and everyone else who is in the motel, they all are the same person)

2. What is the conflict that drives the narrative?

The people in the motel try to find a killer that is between them. At the same time they try to find the connections between themselves.

3. What is the tone of the film? (genre/feel)

Psychological Thriller

4. What is the theme of the film?

Malcom Rivers is an inmate that faces the death penalty. He has a multiple personality disorder and is trying to avoid the death by demonstrating it to a judge.

5. Are the characters relatable? Why or why not?

Each character in the motel seems to have a background even though we find out at the end that they all are the same person. This helps the audience to connect with them and surprises at the end when we find out that they never actually existed.

6. What can you take away from this film that might benefit you as you write your story?

I like the way that the story is being told and how Rivers' mind worked. How he was able to create all these personas with different backgrounds in his head. Writers seemed to cover many ideas of who Rivers really is and why they all his personas had to get together and fight within his mind and the purpose for it.

TRAINSPOTTING (1996)

1. Who is the protagonist of this film?

Mark Renton

2. What is the conflict that drives the narrative?

Renton's struggle of drug addiction and getting out of it.

3. What is the tone of the film? (genre/feel)

Drama

4. What is the theme of the film?

Renton's and his friends' actions takes him to a point where he decides to come clean from his addictions.

5. Are the characters relatable? Why or why not?

Yes, the film may have more connection with a 18-25 audience due to the character's actions and lack of maturity. Each character drives themselves with complete freedom but with hard consequences.

6. What can you take away from this film that might benefit you as you write your story?

I like how the film shows how their mind worked with or without drugs. The film has a fast pace that keeps the story interesting and in times makes you feel how the characters are feeling. It is a bit over the top but enjoyable film.

PRIMAL FEAR (1996)

1. Who is the protagonist of this film?

Martin Vail

2. What is the conflict that drives the narrative?

Vail trying to save the live of Aaron Stampler from a death sentence from killing a well known Bishop.

3. What is the tone of the film? (genre/feel)

Drama/Thriller

4. What is the theme of the film?

While Vail tries to prove Stampler's innocence he discovers that Stampler has multiple personality disorder and the real motive of the killing.

5. Are the characters relatable? Why or why not?

Yes, the characters connect well with the audience to show their point of view on the case and their actions. Even the voice given to Stampler makes you be on his side until the twist at the end of the film.

6. What can you take away from this film that might benefit you as you write your story?

I loved how Stampler's character manipulates everyone involving his case for his goals. Making them all believe he has multiple personalities when he doesn't. In the previous films I saw how minds out of

control worked. In this one, Stampler's mind is fully in control and smart enough to manipulate a powerful attorney.

THE HOST (2006)

1. Who is the protagonist of this film?

Park Gong-Doo

2. What is the conflict that drives the narrative?

A river monster comes to surface and kills lots of people and takes away Park's daughter. Then he and his family discover she is still alive.

3. What is the tone of the film? (genre/feel)

Sfi/Thriller

4. What is the theme of the film?

After Park and his family discover his daughter is still alive, they decide to go out there and try to find her with out the help of the authorities. While authorities are trying to find out how to stop the creature misleading all the people.

5. Are the characters relatable? Why or why not?

Yes. The Park family is built by characters that are completely relatable to a normal family. The good-for-nothing father, the successful aunt, the troubled and misunderstood uncle and the caring grandfather. Even with all their differences they all come together to save the live of Park's daughter.

6. What can you take away from this film that might benefit you as you write your story?

I love how the family theme is used in this film. Even though the family does work completely well due to their differences they are always together. In the extreme situations they find their way to become the best of themselves to save the little girl. And because the events of the film they evolve through the story to become better than they were at the beginning of the story. I choose this film because I would like to use these qualities of the family in my story.

OLDBOY (2003)

1. Who is the protagonist of this film?

Oh Dae-su

2. What is the conflict that drives the narrative?

Oh Dae-su is kidnapped and kept prisoner for 15 years without knowing a reason why. When he is released he is guided by the person who imprisoned him to find out the reason why he was kidnapped and blamed for the murder of his family. He is also helped by a young woman he met at a sushi bar.

3. What is the tone of the film? (genre/feel)

Mystery thriller neo-noir

4. What is the theme of the film?

The main theme of the film is revenge. As Dae-su seeks revenge for what has been done to him, he finds out that all of this is a result of something he did in his past. His enemy is also seeking revenge for what Oh Dae-su did to him.

5. Are the characters relatable? Why or why not?

Yes, even though the characters are placed in extreme situations, their actions make sense. They connect with the audience thanks to their background, even giving time to understand the enemy to help us get to the reasoning why he decided to take revenge against Dae-su in the way he did.

6. What can you take away from this film that might benefit you as you write your story?

This is one of (if not) my favorite films of all time. Pushing the envelope on narrative. It doesn't take away the background of each character to help understand their motives and actions. Even with the disturbing ending somehow it makes sense as for what the main character's choices have to make to protect his loved one and continue his life. This film has everything, action, drama, mystery, love... everything being told with beautiful camera shots and proper pace to help tell the story. This would be a proper example of what I would like to create in the future.

FIGHT CLUB (1999)

1. Who is the protagonist of this film?

Edward Norton's character- Narrator/Tyler Durden (Brad Pitt)

2. What is the conflict that drives the narrative?

The narrator (Edward Norton) suffers from insomnia and looking ways to cure it he befriends Tyler Durden that takes him to extreme situations helping him with his insomnia at the same time complicating the rest of his life.

3. What is the tone of the film? (genre/feel)

Thriller/Drama

4. What is the theme of the film?

As the narrator (Norton) finds out Durden's plans he finds out he and Durden are the same person. And everything that Durden has created was the narrator (Norton) himself as a second persona.

5. Are the characters relatable? Why or why not?

Yes, the point of view of Norton's character is the typical regular man who wants to get out of the ordinary. Norton's character connects well with audience to understand his actions. Durden is the consequence of all the normal human frustration with society running wild.

6. What can you take away from this film that might benefit you as you write your story?

As a psychological thriller, I like the speed of the narrative and how carefully both characters were used during the story to deliver twist when we find out that Norton's character and Durden are the same person. David Fincher (director) plays a lot with the film techniques and social issues to make this story greater than just a person's damaged mind.

GONE GIRL (2014)

1. Who is the protagonist of this film?

Amy Dunne

2. What is the conflict that drives the narrative?

Amy Dunne decides to leave Nick Dunne (her husband) faking her disappearance framing her husband and publicly humiliating him. She does this because she despises Nick for cheating on her and blaming him for her broken marriage.

3. What is the tone of the film? (genre/feel)

Psychological thriller

4. What is the theme of the film?

At first it seems to be revenge but after failing to succeed with her plan she tries to get back to Nick by framing her ex-boyfriend for the kidnapping and telling Nick she is pregnant having artificially inseminated herself with Nick's sperm that was stored at a fertility clinic.

5. Are the characters relatable? Why or why not?

I didn't feel the characters to be relatable through the film. In this case I didn't think that their actions were supported by their past. Too many twists and turns made tiring the main story for me.

6. What can you take away from this film that might benefit you as you write your story?

I liked the idea but all the twists and turns made the story too busy. I didn't like the cast and the sound of their voices felt off.

BRICK (2005)

1. Who is the protagonist of this film?

Brendan

2. What is the conflict that drives the narrative?

Brendan is trying to find out who killed his ex-girlfriend (Emily) and why.

3. What is the tone of the film? (genre/feel)

Neo-noir thriller

4. What is the theme of the film?

Brendan, a high school student is investigating the murder of his ex-girlfriend. With a small amount of hints he tries to solve the mystery getting involved with dangerous people.

5. Are the characters relatable? Why or why not?

I can say it's difficult to tell, we have high school students who speak in old or refined English. We understand the struggles of a regular high school student. It feels like an old detective story played by high school students.

6. What can you take away from this film that might benefit you as you write your story?

I would like to think that the way the characters act is because we view this world thru Brendan's eyes. It seems that his friend Brain never existed, that it is actually Brendan talking to himself. At the end scene of the movie it seems that Brendan is by himself with Laura but when she leaves Brain appears as if he was there from the beginning and ask what she wisperer to Brendan's ear. After Brendan answers Brains question. Brain leaves and disappears behind Brendan's head. I like that idea a lot.

CITY OF GOD (2002)

1. Who is the protagonist of this film?

Rocket

2. What is the conflict that drives the narrative?

It describes the live in a place called "City of God" a suburb in Rio de Janeiro and how organized crime has played part of it's growth.

3. What is the tone of the film? (genre/feel)

Crime / Drama

4. What is the theme of the film?

Rocket describes the past and present of the crime in the City of God. How the crime has evolved and how the people living there play part in it.

5. Are the characters relatable? Why or why not?

The story is placed in Brazil. Not many relation to the way of living in the U.S. but the narrative describes perfectly each character to understand their background and their actions. The gangs have similarity to what we have seen in mob movies (without the luxury).

6. What can you take away from this film that might benefit you as you write your story?

I love the narrative and the way it was filmed. Going back and forward from present to past does not affect the story. It actually helps understand the characters' actions. Every character has it's own voice. Too many characters involved but the time is taken to learn from them and not get them confused. I like how their background is used to understand their actions and the pase in the film helps to make it enjoyable. Too much info is given and the film does not feel confusing or boring.

TIL HUMAN VOICES WAKE US (2002)

1. Who is the protagonist of this film?

Sam Franks

2. What is the conflict that drives the narrative?

Sam, when he was 15 years old, is in love with Victoria, who after a right together gets lost and then found dead. He leaves the town and 20 years later he returns to bury his father. He meets a woman named Ruby who seems too familiar and makes him think she may be Victoria.

3. What is the tone of the film? (genre/feel)

Drama

4. What is the theme of the film?

At first seems to be to find out what really happened to Victoria. If she really died back when Sam was 15. Then in the last scene seems that it's all about closure.

5. Are the characters relatable? Why or why not?

Yes, thanks to the background story, we understand Sam and the burden he carries. At first it's difficult to understand how Ruby seems to be Victoria, the girl who died 20 years ago. But then we learn that Ruby is just a person Sam created in his head to let Victoria's memory rest.

6. What can you take away from this film that might benefit you as you write your story?

We see everything through Sam's eyes so we cannot understand fully the plot until the end of the movie. Even though that makes it confusing we understand fully the purpose of the story. I had to watch it again to fully appreciate the film. This is not a film to be entertained, so many people may not understand it or would like to watch it due to its pace but the story makes sense and once you watch it a second time you fully understand its purpose. I like it because it contrast to the other movies watched, the way the character's brain works is not for something bad. It's actually used to help himself at the end.

ABRE LOS OJOS (1997)

1. Who is the protagonist of this film?

Cesar

2. What is the conflict that drives the narrative?

Cesar tries to understand the vents on his life and how a love triangle has gotten him act in horrible ways, disfigured, tried to comit suicide and killing a woman.

3. What is the tone of the film? (genre/feel)

Sci-Fi

4. What is the theme of the film?

Cesar learns that all the events after his suicide attempt were actually dreams. He learns he has being placed in "artificial perception" which keeps his body in cryonic suspension until he is able to be revived in the future. After learning that he decides to wake up from that dream to real life.

5. Are the characters relatable? Why or why not?

We can connect to the love triangle in the story but not enough background is used to understand the characters. It still gives what's needed to tell the main story.

6. What can you take away from this film that might benefit you as you write your story?

This film shows us a different way of how the brain of the main character is being used. Technology plays part of it and it's purpose is different as the other movies. It's entertaining how the storytelling is used and how at the end we are left with the mystery of what would be Cesar's future.