Chapter 13 - Storyboarding - Quiz

In actuality, who storyboarded and directed the infamous shower scene in Psycho?
Why was it so effective?

Although we all thank Alfred Hitchcock for the infamous shower scene in Psycho, we should be thanking Saul Bass. Bass was working on storyboards while Hitchcock happened to walk by. Hitchcock then asked if he wanted to storyboard and direct the shower scene after Bass showed him some of his storyboards. The scene was so effective because of how careful and meticulous Bass was when he storyboarded.

2. Why are storyboards important?

Storyboards are important because it is what's used to communicate the vision to the cast and crew. It ensures everyone is on the same page. A huge amount of getting a film done the way you want is in 'visual communication'. If you don't have visual communication, no one will fully understand what you are trying to do.

3. Who created storyboards and what were they initially called?

Storyboards were first created by Disney's animator Webb Smith. He originally called them "Story Sketches". This practice quickly became used in the filmmaking world.

4. How did the Wachowskis get their start and how did they meet Steve Skroce?

The Wachowskis got their start by making the comics for 'Hellraiser' and 'Nightbreed'. They met Steve Skroce while working on Marvel's 'Ectokid'. This then built up to to the Wachowskis' masterpiece 'The Matrix'.

5. Compare and contrast Ridley Scott's storyboards from Alien and Martin Scorsese's storyboards from Taxi Driver.

The main difference in Ridley Scott's 'Alien' and Martin Scorsese's 'Taxi Driver' is the attention to detail put into the drawings. With Ridley Scott's storyboards, there is a ridiculous, but very helpful amount of details put into each box. He went above and beyond. Because of this, Ridley's budget almost doubled. Martin Scorsese however, made very, very rough sketches of all his storyboards. There is not much detail at all in the storyboards, just the minimum of what needs to happen in the scene. But, in both these cases, the crew was able to see Ridley and Scorsese's visions and help create exactly what they wanted.