1. Explain the problem with only writing what you know. How will you, as the screenwriter, go about creating stories that exist outside your realm of experience?

The problem is that you’re limiting your perspective. Creating outside of what you know, you can create a world that stands on its own.

1. Explain what makes a fantastical story believable.

Understanding the people in the story. To create a fulfilling story, both inner and outer focus need to tie together. Outer focus tends to be dramatic irony of a story.

1. What tools are needed to write believable characters?

The character has to have a developed personality, the situation they’re involved in and the choices they have to make.

1. How do you move a story idea beyond simple spectacle?

The action of the story has to revolve around some human need.

1. What ingredients are necessary to create a compelling story?

Inner and outer focus.

1. Explain the difference between the inner and outer focus of a story.

Outer focus tends to be dramatic irony of the story while inner focus is how you arrange the order of the story to create movement to some resolution.

1. What is the biggest mistake beginning writers make? Why is it a problem?

Biggest mistake beginning writers make is they are writing a novel instead of a film. The film should be a blueprint and not long winded.

1. What are the structural elements of a script?

The 3 act structure; The setup, the confrontation, and the resolution. But more abstractly, other structural elements that must be in place are plot, character, setting, time, dialogue, pace, etc.

1. Why is it important to predict Hollywoods upcoming trends?

To stay with the times and possibly be the trendsetter.

1. Describe what a synopsis should entail.

A synopsis should entail the story you’re telling in just a few pages like a summary. It should be written with urgency to leave the reader wanting to know more.

1. What is creative discipline? Why is it important?

It’s the ability to get up every day, sit down at a computer and work on your craft.