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Chapter 1 - Intro to Genre - Quiz

1. What is an auteur? Who popularized the idea?

An auteur is a filmmaker who has great personal influence and artistic control over his/her movie. They are often known to be the “author” of the film because of their personal style and influence put into it. The word “auteur” was popularized by Francois Truffaut who is known for directing famous french films like “The 400 Blows” and “Shoot the Piano Player”.

2. What effect did the lack of formal education have on Truffaut’s career?

Truffaut had a lack of education because of his decision to drop out of school. He then decided to teach himself by reading three books a week and watch three movies a day. After doing this, he became a serious movie critic and was mostly disliked because of his harshness towards films. Many years after critiquing movies, he decided to make his own films, all by teaching himself.

3. Being a good director requires what?

Being a good director requires having skill and a clear vision of what you want. They also need a single-minded vision other than hundreds of random writers in a room. Another important factor is talent which some are born with, but most work to achieve their goal.

4. Compare and contrast the way Sam Raimi made Evil Dead and the way Tarantino made Reservoir Dogs.

'The Evil Dead', directed by Sam Raimi, was originally a short film that was made to show the idea of the movie to companies in hopes that they would invest. In the end, a dentist's union was the one to support this now classic horror film. We can see similar ways of putting a movie together with Quentin Tarantino's film 'Reservoir Dogs'. After he wrote the script in three short weeks, he passed it along to a producer who continued to pass it down, ending up in the hands of Harvey Keitel. Keitel decided to sign as co-producer bumping up the budget of \$30,000 to \$1.5 million. Raimi and Tarantino were both similar in the way that they had hope that they would find the right person to help grow their project, bringing it to the big screen.