

Film Connection Quiz 3

1. What led to Joseph Campbell's interest in comparative mythology?

A trip with his father to the Natural History Museum that led to an interest in Native American Culture which further led to an interest in Sanskrit and Medieval Culture.

2. How did Joseph Campbell become the world's foremost scholar on mythology? How did the Great Depression benefit his education?

He had a desire to attain knowledge above all else. When the depression hit, he couldn't find work so he decided to spend his days reading about the stories of different cultures. He did this 9 hours a day for 5 years.

3. What is considered to be Joseph Campbell's most important teaching?

The importance of following your bliss.

4. What is the primary factor that decides what types of stories a storyteller will decide to tell? What are storytellers "a product" of?

The primary factor that decides what stories a storyteller will tell is the combination of his/her experiences and ideas that make the storyteller original and sprinkle it on an old myth or story that he/she is inspired from. Basically, history + originality.

Storytellers are a product of the culture, class, time period, race they were born into and the experiences they have throughout their life.

5. Describe why myths are important. What are "stories", as defined in the context of this chapter?

Myths are important because they embody everything one could believe in. They are stories, experiences that have been passed on for eons. They tell us the different ways we could live life. They guide us through our toughest of times.

Stories are simply visions that were shared throughout time by those who chose to do so, those who decided to add to the realm of "myths".

6. Explain how you will discover your own myths.

By studying history, realizing what parts or type of history is of most interest because of how relatable it might be to my own experiences and understanding of the world.

7. Why is it important to understand the history of your art?

It's important because only by understanding this history can you comprehend the depth of what your predecessors tried to accomplish. How they added their originality to the stories that were told before them. How they used unique cinematic styles to make their point and how those styles could help make your film make your point in a more understandable manner. You will also be able to develop a better taste of what you like and don't like.

8. Describe the difference between an antihero and an antivillain.

Basically, an antihero is a hero with elements of a villain and an anti villain is a villain who has hero like qualities. Both make the point that people are more complex and have both a good side and bad.

9. As a storyteller, following countless other storytellers before you, how do you plan on keeping your stories FRESH and UNIQUE? How do you achieve freedom from the "monomyth?"

Identify your story and figure out how it fits into the mythic structure, not the other way around.

10. Explain what you think is the best way to utilize the "hero's journey" without it becoming stale and predictable.

By adding your own flavor to this old mythic structure. This could come from your personal experiences or from things you see around you on a daily basis. Again, one is a product of the environment they grow in and the experiences they have throughout their life. No two people are the same.

11. What separates real storytellers from those who just want to play storyteller? What is the most important trait you must possess to achieve your goals?

Discipline. Not just thinking of ideas, but making a concerted effort to turn those ideas into reality. It takes time and patience.