

## Chapter 02

### The Significance of Film Form

#### Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the term for the relationships among the parts of a film?

- A. Pattern
- B. Form**
- C. Structure
- D. Plot

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Define form*

*Topic: form and pattern*

2. Events involving characters that form a film's story is/are the

- A. narrative elements.**
- B. stylistic elements.
- C. cinematic structure.
- D. content.

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Define form*

*Topic: form and content*

3. Surprise generally results from

- A. an expectation that is fulfilled late in a film.
- B. a predictable pattern in the film's form.
- C. the buildup of suspense.
- D. an expectation that turns out to be incorrect.**

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand how film form creates expectations*

*Learning Objective: Understand how film form elicits emotional response*

*Topic: form and feeling*

*Topic: formal expectations*

4. Elements such as traditions, dominant styles, or popular forms that are common to several different types of art are called

- A. traits.
- B. genres.
- C. conventions.**
- D. formulas.

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Know how conventions in form define film experience*

*Topic: similarity and repetition in film form*

5. In the judgment of a film's quality, a "criterion" is

- A. an expectation experienced by spectators before the film begins.
- B. a standard that can be applied to many different films.**
- C. a critique of the overall artistic value of the film.
- D. an objective evaluation by an experienced film critic.

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand how to evaluate films*

*Topic: evaluation*

6. What kinds of emotions are most likely produced by expectations that are fulfilled?

- A. Anxiety or sympathy
- B. Puzzlement or increased interest
- C. Sadness or joy
- D. Satisfaction or relief**

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand how film form elicits emotional response*

*Topic: form and feeling*

7. What is a "motif"?

- A. An important element that is repeated throughout a film
- B. A justification for an element appearing in a film
- C. A reason for a character's actions
- D. An element that creates conflict in a film

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand how to pick out patterns when studying films*

*Topic: similarity and repetition in film form*

8. Which of the following is NOT an example of a manifestation of the formal principle of difference in a film?

- A. One character is in a city, and another is in a natural setting.
- B. Two characters clash with each other.
- C. Characters wear similar costumes or hairstyles.
- D. Music varies with changes in setting.

*Bloom's: Analyze*

*Learning Objective: Understand the film form principle of variation*

*Topic: difference and variation in film form*

9. Similarities between two or more distinct elements of a film are called

- A. repetitions.
- B. consistencies.
- C. shared traits.
- D. parallels.

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand how to pick out patterns when studying films*

*Topic: similarity and repetition in film form*

10. Which of the following is NOT a stylistic element of a film?

- A. The way the camera moves
- B. The use of music
- C. The pattern of narrative events
- D. The arrangement of color in a frame

*Bloom's: Understand*

*Learning Objective: Understand how elements in film form fulfill functions*

*Topic: form and content*

11. A written outline that details the major and minor parts of a film, marking the parts by numbers and letters, is a

- A. script.
- B. segmentation.
- C. form plan.
- D. blueprint.

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand how to look for principles of development in film form*

*Topic: development in film form*

12. A delay in the fulfillment of an established expectation creates

- A. frustration.
- B. suspense.
- C. confusion.
- D. surprise.

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand how film form creates expectations*

*Learning Objective: Understand how film form elicits emotional response*

*Topic: form and feeling*

13. Comparing the beginning with the ending of a film helps spectators to understand

- A. the film's overall pattern.
- B. parallel elements in the film.
- C. motifs in the film.
- D. the film's overall message.

*Bloom's: Understand*

*Learning Objective: Understand how to pick out patterns when studying films*  
*Topic: form and pattern*

14. Which of the following describes a stylistic pattern used in *The Wizard of Oz*?
- A. A tornado leads to Dorothy's journey to Oz.
  - B. The characters in Oz resemble characters in Dorothy's life in Kansas.
  - C. Dorothy's adventures in Oz result from her desire to return to Kansas.
  - D. Colors are used to identify landmarks and locations within the story.**

*Bloom's: Understand*  
*Learning Objective: Understand how to pick out patterns when studying films*  
*Topic: form and pattern*

15. One convention of narrative form is that
- A. the conclusion of a film resolves characters' problems.**
  - B. characters sing and dance in the film.
  - C. the film features thrilling scenes, such as spectacular car chases.
  - D. background information about characters is introduced late in the film.

*Bloom's: Remember*  
*Learning Objective: Know how conventions in form define film experience*  
*Topic: conventions and experience*  
*Topic: formal expectations*

16. Which of the following is NOT a type of meaning that spectators might consider in a film?
- A. Referential meaning
  - B. Declared meaning**
  - C. Explicit meaning
  - D. Implicit meaning

*Bloom's: Remember*  
*Learning Objective: Know how form shapes a film's meaning*  
*Learning Objective: Understand explicit meaning*  
*Learning Objective: Understand implicit meaning*  
*Learning Objective: Understand referential meaning*  
*Topic: form and meaning*

17. Which of the following conventions, common in current films, would have been considered unusual in the 1940s and 1950s?
- A. A slow pace of events
  - B. Singing and dancing
  - C. Flashbacks to earlier events**
  - D. The portrayal of activities that do not occur in everyday life

*Bloom's: Remember*  
*Learning Objective: Know how conventions in form define film experience*  
*Topic: conventions and experience*

18. Which of the following works is NOT structured around a journey?
- A. *The Wizard of Oz*
  - B. *Collateral***
  - C. *The Lord of the Rings*
  - D. *The Odyssey*

*Bloom's: Remember*  
*Learning Objective: Know how form shapes a film's meaning*  
*Topic: development in film form*

19. Which of the following criterion for evaluating a film involves an assessment of how emotionally engaging the film is?
- A. Moral judgment
  - B. Realistic sets
  - C. Intensity of effect**
  - D. Originality

*Bloom's: Remember*  
*Learning Objective: Understand how to evaluate films*  
*Topic: evaluation*

20. A film is said to be complex if
- A. spectators have difficulty following the story line.

- B. it involves numerous characters.
- C. it invites spectators to think more deeply about their own real-life situations.
- D.** it creates multiple relations among many different formal film elements.

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand the film form principle of variation*

*Topic: development in film form*

*Topic: function of film form*

21. A film's "development" is based on repetition as well as

- A.** progression.
- B. the film's ending.
- C. motifs.
- D. themes.

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand how to look for principles of development in film form*

*Topic: development in film form*

22. A film that is cohesive in its overall form has

- A. intensity.
- B.** unity.
- C. organization.
- D. development.

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand how to look for principles of development in film form*

*Topic: development in film form*

23. Emotions experienced by spectators result from spectators' perceptions of

- A. how other spectators interpret the film.
- B. the film's use of conventions.
- C.** formal patterns in the film.
- D. how closely the film's events resemble those of real life.

*Bloom's: Understand*

*Learning Objective: Understand how film form elicits emotional response*

*Topic: form and feeling*

*Topic: form and pattern*

24. Implicit meanings are sometimes called

- A. concrete elements.
- B. themes.
- C. interpretations.
- D.** subtexts.

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand implicit meaning*

*Topic: form and meaning*

25. Symptomatic meanings result from

- A.** the characteristics of a particular society at a particular time.
- B. spectators' ability to relate to characters in the film.
- C. problems that the characters in a film try to overcome.
- D. flaws exhibited by the characters in a film.

*Bloom's: Understand*

*Learning Objective: Understand symptomatic meaning*

*Topic: form and meaning*

## **True / False Questions**

26. "Meaning" refers to what a film says or suggests.

**TRUE**

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Know how form shapes a film's meaning*

*Topic: form and meaning*

27. Genres are unaffected by conventions.

**FALSE**

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand how to pick out patterns when studying films*

*Topic: conventions and experience*

28. Emotions represented in a film are usually experienced by the audience as well.

**FALSE**

*Bloom's: Understand*

*Learning Objective: Understand how film form elicits emotional response*

*Topic: form and feeling*

29. *Social ideology* is a set of values characteristic of a whole society.

**TRUE**

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Define unity*

*Topic: form and meaning*

30. Curiosity is a feeling of expectation that results when patterns of artistic cues cause spectators to think about events that came before a certain point in the film.

**TRUE**

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand how elements in film form fulfill functions*

*Topic: formal expectations*

*Topic: similarity and repetition in film form*

31. Personal taste and evaluative judgment are virtually the same.

**FALSE**

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand how to evaluate films*

*Topic: evaluation*

32. Filmmakers generally strive to create artworks that invite a single interpretation—the one that the filmmaker intends.

**FALSE**

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand how to evaluate films*

*Topic: evaluation*

33. In film evaluation, moral criteria are used to judge certain aspects of a film outside of their film context.

**TRUE**

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand how to evaluate films*

*Topic: evaluation*

34. A unified film may still leave some questions unanswered or contain some unintegrated elements.

**TRUE**

*Bloom's: Understand*

*Learning Objective: Understand how to look for principles of development in film form*

*Topic: unity and disunity in film form*

35. Prior experience has little effect on spectators' expectations as they view a film.

**FALSE**

*Bloom's: Understand*

*Learning Objective: Understand how film form creates expectations*

*Topic: formal expectations*

36. Each major character in *The Wizard of Oz* fulfills a single significant function.

**FALSE**

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand how to look for principles of development in film form*

*Topic: development in film form*

37. Comedy often depends on creating surprise or cheating spectators' expectations.

**TRUE**

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Know how form shapes a film's meaning*

*Topic: form and meaning*

38. Variation is a fundamental principle of film form.

**TRUE**

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand how elements in film form fulfill functions*

*Topic: difference and variation in film form*

39. *The Wizard of Oz* has a large-scale ABA form.

**TRUE**

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Know how conventions in form define film experience*

*Learning Objective: Understand form as pattern*

*Topic: development in film form*

*Topic: form and pattern*

40. Referential meaning is meaning that is openly asserted in a film.

**FALSE**

*Bloom's: Remember*

*Learning Objective: Understand referential meaning*

*Topic: form and meaning*

### Essay Questions

41. How can film form create new emotional reactions in the audience instead of simply triggering practiced ones? Give an example of how the *Wizard of Oz* uses form to override spectators' everyday emotional responses.

Answers will vary

*Bloom's: Apply*

*Learning Objective: Understand how film form creates expectations*

*Learning Objective: Understand how film form elicits emotional response*

*Topic: form and feeling*

42. What can we discover about a film's "architecture" from analyzing its plot segmentation?

Answers will vary

*Bloom's: Understand*

*Learning Objective: Know how form shapes a film's meaning*

*Learning Objective: Know to compare the beginning with the ending in understanding a film's development*

*Learning Objective: Understand how to look for principles of development in film form*

*Topic: development in film form*

*Topic: difference and variation in film form*

*Topic: function of film form*

*Topic: similarity and repetition in film form*

*Topic: unity and disunity in film form*

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