

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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