

Who's Camus Anyway? Discussion Question

Story

1. Is there a main character in this film?
2. What is the significance of the character Rei?
3. What sense of emotion does the director try to exude from the audience during the scenes between Rei and Professor Nakajo?
4. Why do the students refer Professor Nakajo as Aschenbach?
5. Why do the students refer to Yukari as Adeline?
6. How does the disagreement in the reason why the main character in "The Bored Murderer" kills the old woman affect the film crew?
7. Do we get a good impression of the characters and their lives when they are first introduced?
8. Does the chemistry between the cast effectively portray a sense of realism. If so, how similar and dissimilar is the social culture of Japanese College students to that of the social culture of American College students portrayed in American society?
9. In what ways do the social and love lives of the student filmmakers in the film affect the film they make?
10. To some extent is Matsukawa (the director) responsible for what happens to him and why?
11. In respect to the relationship between Yukari (suicide girl) and Matsukawa, who do we sympathize with more?
12. What impression do we get when we first meet Ikeda?
13. Are there any similarities between Ikeda and the character he plays in the student film?
14. Why does Professor Nakajo become obsessed with Rei?
15. What does the film suggest about the romantic relationships between all of the characters in the film?
16. Why does Hisada reveal to her boyfriend she cheated on him?

17. Do all the characters in the film serve a purpose?

Directing

1. Does the director make a strong enough connection between the lives of the student filmmakers and the film they make?
2. How does the director's long tracking shots and wandering camera movements narrate the events of the film? Does it do so effectively?
3. Does the director's directing style during the filming of the student film serve a purpose beyond aesthetics? If so, what purpose does it serve?
4. Do the multiple movie references in the film create a bias towards audiences that are not familiar with the references?
5. Do we feel a sense of fluidity as the film weaves in and out of the lives of the characters and how well does the director tackle the drama, the romance, the comedy and the violence in the lives of these characters?

Acting

1. Does the chemistry between the cast effectively portray the lives of a college student?
2. Ikeda gives an eerie performance as the killer; however does Hideo Nakaizumi translates this eeriness to his portrayal of Ikeda?
3. Is there a fine distinction between the characteristics of the characters? Do the actors do good job in creating the distinction?
4. How does the acting affect the pace of the film?
5. Do any actors steal the film?
6. What actor's interpretation of his or her characters stands out the most?
7. Who do you consider to be the main actor of the film or do you consider this to be an ensemble cast?