

Name: _____ Period: ____ Date: _____ Due: _____

Wonder Woman (2017)
directed by Patty Jenkins

Cast

Gal Gadot as Diana Prince/Wonder Woman
Chris Pine as Captain Steve Trevor
Robin Wright as General Antiope
Danny Huston as General Erich Ludendorff
David Thewlis as Sir Patrick Morgan/Ares
Connie Nielsen as Queen Hippolyta
Elena Anaya as Isabel Maru/Doctor Poison

Crew

Director: Patty Jenkins
Producers: Charles Roven, Deborah Snyder, Zack Snyder, and Richard Suckle
Writer: Allan Heinberg (screenplay) Zack Snyder, Allan Heinberg, and Jason Fuchs (story)
Editor: Martin Walsh
Director of Photography: Matthew Jensen
Music: Rupert Gregson-Williams

Distribution/Studio Company: DC Films and Warner Bros.
MPAA Rating: PG-13
Running Time: 141 minutes

Background and Introduction to *Wonder Woman*

Wonder Woman is a 2017 American superhero film based on the DC Comics character of the same name distributed by Warner Bros. Pictures. It is the fourth installment in the DC Extended Universe. *Wonder Woman* is the second live action theatrical film featuring the titular character, following her debut in 2016's *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*. Jenkins' role as director makes her the first female director of a studio superhero comic book live-action theatrical release film. The film tells the story of Princess Diana, who grows up on the Amazon island of Themyscira. After American pilot Steve Trevor crashes offshore of the island and is rescued by her, he tells the Amazons about the ongoing World War. Diana then leaves her home in order to end the conflict, becoming Wonder Woman in the process.

While development for the film began in 1996, Jenkins signed on to direct in 2015. Principal photography began on November 21, 2015, with filming taking place in the United Kingdom, France, and Italy before wrapping on May 9, 2016, the 123rd birthday of the creator, William Moulton Marston. Additional filming took place in November 2016.

Wonder Woman premiered in Shanghai on May 15, 2017, and was released in the United States on June 2, 2017, in 2D, 3D, and IMAX 3D. It received largely positive reviews with critics praising the direction, performances, action sequences and musical score. It set numerous box office records, including becoming the highest-grossing film directed by a woman, the biggest domestic opening for a film directed by a woman, and the largest opening for a female-led comic book movie. It has grossed hundreds of million dollars worldwide, making it one of the highest grossing films of 2017. It also helped the DCEU to push past \$3 billion at the worldwide box office, making it the sixteenth highest-grossing film franchise of all time. *New York Observer* critic Thelma Adams writes, "*Wonder Woman* embraces issues of female power and the need to turn from hate to love, war to peace in a mainstream delivery system. And the female lead is not solely a mother, sister, girlfriend or hooker, however gold her heart: wonder of wonders!" (Poster and screenshots © DC Films, 2017).

Comprehension Questions

Directions: Answer the following questions during or after the movie.

1. What does Diana, the **narrator**, say in the opening **monologue** about mankind? What lesson is she going to likely impart in the “story within the story” that is the heart and **plot** of the film?
2. What is the **setting**, and what does Diana receive from Bruce Wayne? (If you saw 2016’s *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*, explain the connection between Diana and Bruce established in the film.)
3. How do the filmmakers transition from the **present** to the **past** via a **flashback**? What **editing relation** is used? Why? Note how an adult Diana transitions to a young Diana.
4. How are the Amazon combat scenes filmed cinematically? Why? What type of kid was Diana? Why?
5. What does Diana want to learn? How do Diana’s mother, Queen Hippolyta, and aunt, General Antiope, feel about Diana’s desires? Why?
6. What story does Queen Hippolyta tell Diana about her birth? Why?
7. What origin story about mankind and the Amazons does Queen Hippolyta? What did Ares do to mankind? Why? What is the Amazons’ purpose? How is this scene filmed cinematically?
8. What is shown in **flash forward** that General Antiope does with Diana? Why? What **character archetype** does General Antiope exemplify, especially in relationship to Diana?

9. What did Zeus do to Ares and the Amazons? Why? What weapons did Zeus leave the Amazons? Why?

10. What **montage** is shown over the years? What is Queen Hippolyta's reaction when she discovers Diana's secret? Why?

11. How are Queen Hippolyta and General Antiope **foils**? What does each believe is best for Diana? Why?

12. What compromise does Queen Hippolyta make with General Antiope to continue Diana's training?

13. What happens when Diana fights General Antiope years later? What is Diana's reaction to her strength?

14. Who does Diana rescue from drowning? Unfortunately, who follows him and what ensues?

15. What is Captain Steve Trevor's reaction to Diana? How is their relationship implied in **cinematography**?

16. How do the Amazons' weapons compare to the Germans'? How is this fight scene filmed cinematically? Why isn't there any blood or gore depicted?

17. What awesome move with a shield does Captain Steve Trevor observe General Antiope do? What does General Antiope do to save Diana and at what cost? What do these events later **foreshadow**?

18. What do the Amazons use to force Steve to reveal who he is? What does he reveal that's portrayed in a **flashback**? What are the Germans doing? How? Why?

19. Who is Dr. Isabel Maru? What's her nickname? How is she indirectly characterized by her appearance and actions?

20. What did Steve do, and how did he arrive at the island? What is Steve's desire, goal, or mission?

21. What **setting** does Steve reveal is occurring around the world? What context clues reveal the time period?

22. What does Diana desire to do? Why? Why doesn't Queen Hippolyta honor her request?

23. What **comic relief** and innuendo occur in the next scene? What is Diana's reaction to Steve's watch?

24. Why does Steve feel he needs to return? What does Diana take from the tower? What is implied through **dramatic irony** is the last item that Diana takes? Why is this item not revealed now?

25. Why does Queen Hippolyta let Diana go? What does Hippolyta give Diana before she goes? What can this item **symbolize**?

26. What does Hippolyta say to Diana before she leaves? What **figurative language** does she use? Why?

27. What deal do Steve and Diana make? What will each do? What does Diana believe will happen if she kills Ares with “the Godkiller”?
28. What **comic relief** occurs when Steve and Diana prepare for bed on the boat?
29. What is shown in **parallel action/crosscutting**? Who is General Erich Ludendorff, and how is he indirectly characterized?
30. What has Doctor Poison created for General Ludendorff, and how does it affect him?
31. What does Doctor Poison finally realize? How is this revelation implied cinematically?
32. How is the **setting** of London indirectly characterized or **personified**? What’s the general **color palette**?
33. What is Diana’s reaction to a baby? Why?
34. Who is Etta Candy, Steve Trevor’s secretary? How is she indirectly characterized? What is her purpose in the film? What vote (for women) is she **alluding** to?
35. What **dramatic irony** and **humor** is created when Diana discovers what she thinks is armor?

36. What **comic relief** is implied in the **montage**? What is Steve's reaction to Diana's **costume**? What is **ironic** and humorous about her **costume** in comparison to her **props**, the sword and shield?
37. Who notices and follows Steve and Diana? How does Diana save Steve?
38. Who is Sir Patrick Morgan, and how is he indirectly characterized? How does he assist Steve?
39. How do the generals treat Diana? Why? What does Diana reveal to Steve's superiors is in Maru's journal?
40. What does Steve desire to do? Why? Why do the generals refuse? How does Diana challenge them?
41. What do Steve and Diana plan to do? What men do they recruit? How is each indirectly characterized?
- a. Sameer –
 - b. Charlie –
 - c. Chief Napi –
42. How does Diana prove herself to Steve's allies? Why does Sir Patrick Morgan support their mission?
43. What is Diana's reaction to seeing wounded soldiers come home? Why? How is this moment filmed cinematically?

44. What is shown in **crosscutting/parallel action** that General Ludendorff does to avoid armistice? What do he and Maru do to their own men? Why? What is their reaction to their actions?
45. Why does Chief Napi assist and why is he neutral in this war? Why doesn't he belong? What nightmare does Charlie have? Why?
46. What is Diana's reaction to the horrors of war? Why? What is she prevented from doing by the men? Why?
47. What does a villager tell Diana has happened in Veld beyond No Man's Land? What is No Man's Land? What problem has the battalion had?
48. What does Diana do, and why is this the first moment when Wonder Woman's **costume** is revealed?
49. How is the No Man's Land battle scene filmed cinematically? How does Diana inspire the other soldiers?
50. What does Diana do in Veld, and why is the film's **theme** in its **non-diegetic score** played here?
51. Why can't Charlie shoot the sniper? What move does Chris perform that General Antiope inspired him to do? How does Diana save the day, and what is the villagers' reaction? What photograph is taken here?
52. What information does Etta tell Steve? What does Sir Patrick Morgan forbid them to do? Why?

53. Who does Diana believe is Ares? Why? What do Diana and Steve plan to do? Why?
54. What intimate moment do Diana and Steve share? What is the **subtext** of Diana and Steve's talk?
55. Why do Steve's friends want to continue to join them? What is their reaction to what Steve tells them?
56. How and why does the team divide and conquer? What is Steve's plan? What is Diana's plan?
57. How does Steve charm and poison Isabel Maru? Who or what are Maru and Ludendorff's loves?
58. What is **ironic** about what Diana has behind her dress? What **dramatic irony** is evident here, too?
59. What is **ironic** about Diana and General Ludendorff **character proxemics**? What do they discuss, and what does Steve prevent her from doing? Why is Diana upset with Steve?
60. What does General Ludendorff fire that Diana discovers? What is **ironic** and tragic about this reveal? What is Diana's reaction, and how is it underscored in the **cinematography** and **non-diegetic score**?
61. How do Diana and Steve follow General Ludendorff? How do their modes of transportation indirectly characterize them?

62. How is General Ludendorff able to match Diana physically? Why is Ludendorff's death **anticlimactic**?
63. Why is Diana upset? What does Steve tell her about mankind? Why doesn't Diana join Steve?
64. Who is the real Ares, and how is this revelation **ironic**? Recall how this character was introduced. Why does Ares finally reveal himself here, especially to Diana?
65. What does Ares want, especially from Diana? Why? What does he say about mankind?
66. Who or what is the real "Godkiller"? Why didn't Queen Hippolyta reveal this secret to Diana? What is Diana's true identity? Who is her father? Does Ares really need Diana's assistance to execute his plan?
67. What happens in the **climax**, especially in **crosscutting/parallel action**? How are these scenes filmed?
68. What does Steve tell and give Diana? Why? What does he do to save everyone, but what does it cost him?
69. Why does Ares want Diana to kill Isabel Doctor Poison? What does he hope to prove by convincing her to commit this action? What does Diana do, and how does she defeat Ares mentally and physically?
70. What is the film's implied **resolution**? What lesson is it that Diana has learned about mankind, especially from Steve? What does she pledge to do? Why?

Discussion Questions

Directions: Answer the following questions after you watch the film.

1. Can *Wonder Woman* be considered a **feminist film**? Consider the **story, production crew**, and implied **ideologies/themes**.
2. How are Wonder Woman and Ares each indirectly characterized by their **costumes**?
3. Why do the filmmakers structure the film as a **flashback**? What is the benefit or purpose of it? Why not just structure the film in a traditional, **chronological**, and **linear** way?
4. What clues early in the film **foreshadow** Diana's true nature as a god? What clues does Queen Hippolyta and General Antiope say?
5. Within the **superhero movie subgenre** of fantasy, what type of story is *Wonder Woman*? Why do you think DC Films decided to reveal Wonder Woman in *Batman v. Superman* before *Wonder Woman*?
6. What are the film's **ideologies** and/or **themes**, especially about mankind? Are they implicit or explicit?

