Screen Ages - A Survey of American Cinema 1st edition Alberti Test Bank

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1 What did the turn-of-the-twentieth-century journalist Joseph Medill Patterson see as particularly significant about the growing popularity of nickelodeon theaters?

(A) The increased revenues they would generate for the movie industry.

(B) The new, large, and diverse audiences nickelodeons were attracting.

(C) How nickelodeons would promote the technological development of the movies.

(D) The employment opportunities being created by the nickelodeons.

Answer: (B) The new, large, and diverse audiences nickelodeons were attracting.

Feedback: The new, large, and diverse audiences nickelodeons were attracting.

2 The career of Lois Weber exemplifies what historical trend related to the role of women in the production of movies in America?

(A) Since the beginnings of American movies, the opportunities for and influence of women filmmakers have continued to grow and grow.

(B) In the first two decades of American movies, few women were interested in entering the movie business.

(C) The increasingly hierarchical organization of the movie business from the teens into the twenties began to limit opportunities for women in production.

(D) The difficulty early women filmmakers had in finding popular success.

Answer: (C) The increasingly hierarchical organization of the movie business from the teens into the twenties began to limit opportunities for women in production.

Feedback: The increasingly hierarchical organization of the movie business from the teens into the twenties began to limit opportunities for women in production.

3 What is one way that Enoch Arden is an example of the "uplift movement" in American movies?

(A) It features a religious storyline.

(B) It is based on what was considered a work of serious literature.

(C) It used professional actors.

(D) It failed to achieve popular success.

Answer: (B) It is based on what was considered a work of serious literature.

Feedback: It is based on what was considered a work of serious literature.

4 How did D. W. Griffith embody "contradictions that defined the development of American movie culture"?

(A) He was a rich man who became fascinated by a medium that mainly appealed to lower income audiences.

(B) He desired popular success but refused to make crime movies or romances.

(C) He combined innovative new ways to tell stories on film with old-fashioned moral values and prejudices.

(D) He considered himself an artist but was reluctant to tackle controversial issues in his movies.

Answer: (C) He combined innovative new ways to tell stories on film with old-fashioned moral values and prejudices.

Feedback: He combined innovative new ways to tell stories on film with old-fashioned moral values and prejudices.

5 Which of the following is an important reason that early movie studios did not regularly identify the actors in their movies?

(A) If individual actors became well known, they could demand higher salaries and greater influence.

(B) Early movie audiences displayed little interest in the names of the actors in movies.

(C) Most of the people appearing in early movies were not professional performers.

(D) Most live theater and vaudeville programs did not identify performers by name.

Answer: (A) If individual actors became well known, they could demand higher salaries and greater influence.

Feedback: If individual actors became well known, they could demand higher salaries and greater influence.

6 How does A Girl and Her Trust most reflect changing ideas about gender roles related to the idea of the "New Woman"?

(A) The title character has a job and actively fights back against the robbers.

(B) The title character is uninterested in romantic relationships of any kind.

(C) The title character is working to finance her college education.

(D) The title character refuses any help from male characters.

Answer: (A) The title character has a job and actively fights back against the robbers.

Feedback: The title character has a job and actively fights back against the robbers.

7 Why did slapstick comedies raise concerns for those worried about the moral fitness of the movies?

(A) The focus on pratfalls and physical comedy might lead younger members of the audience to imitate this dangerous behavior.

(B) Slapstick comedies only appealed to working-class and immigrant audiences.

(C) Most nickelodeon programs only showed slapstick comedies.

(D) Slapstick comedy challenged dominant ideas of moral and social propriety.

Answer: (D) Slapstick comedy challenged dominant ideas of moral and social propriety.

Feedback: Slapstick comedy challenged dominant ideas of moral and social propriety.

8 If on the one hand D. W. Griffith's The Red Man's View seems to express sympathy for Indian peoples forced at gunpoint from their homes and land, in what way can it also be experienced as justifying Indian removal?

(A) By stressing the war-like nature of the Kiowa nation.

(B) By suggesting Indian peoples are more "primitive" than the invading white settlers.

(C) By using white actors to play Indian characters.

(D) By making the white characters appear extremely sympathetic.

Answer: (B) By suggesting Indian peoples are more "primitive" than the invading white settlers.

Feedback: By suggesting Indian peoples are more "primitive" than the invading white settlers.

9 Why was the US Supreme Court ruling in the "Mutual Case" especially significant?

(A) It specifically stated that the First Amendment right to free speech did not apply to the movies.

(B) It specifically stated that the First Amendment right to free speech did apply to the movies.

(C) It specifically stated that government could not engage in censorship of the movies.

(D) It specifically stated that the National Board of Censorship was unconstitutional.

Answer: (A) It specifically stated that the First Amendment right to free speech did not apply to the movies.

Feedback: It specifically stated that the First Amendment right to free speech did not apply to the movies.

10 The National Board of Censorship is best described as:

(A) A US government agency charged with making sure that movies would not contain material harmful to the morals of the audiences.

(B) A group of influential Protestant and Catholic clergy that published lists of current movies they found morally objectionable.

(C) An organization created by studio owners to avoid government censorship by showing how the movie industry could monitor itself.

(D) A volunteer-based society of affluent citizens concerned about the moral welfare of recent immigrants.

Answer: (C) An organization created by studio owners to avoid government censorship by showing how the movie industry could monitor itself.

Feedback: An organization created by studio owners to avoid government censorship by showing how the movie industry could monitor itself.

11 Which of the following factors led to the demise of the Motion Picture Patents Company?

(A) The expiration of many of the most important movie technology patents.

(B) The growing popularity of longer feature films.

(C) Anti-trust rulings against the MPPC by the US government.

(D) All of the above.

Answer: (D) All of the above.

Feedback: All of the above. (The expiration of many of the most important movie technology patents. The growing popularity of longer feature films. Anti-trust rulings against the MPPC by the US government.)

12 Which of the following was not a contributing reason why the movie business relocated to southern California?

(A) The California climate provided year-round sunshine and fair weather.

(B) Thomas Edison decided to move his company headquarters to Los Angeles.

(C) Independent movie companies could avoid the legal reach of the Motion Picture Patents Company.

(D) The scenic California landscape provided attractive locations for movie filming.

Answer: (B) Thomas Edison decided to move his company headquarters to Los Angeles.

Feedback: Thomas Edison decided to move his company headquarters to Los Angeles.

13 What does the "split identity" of the movies in the nickelodeon era refer to?

(A) The sheer variety of movies featured in a typical nickelodeon program.

(B) The contrast between comedies and dramas.

(C) The mixture of American made and international movies.

(D) The tension between short movies as inexpensive entertainment and longer feature films as upscale theatrical experiences.

Answer: (D) The tension between short movies as inexpensive entertainment and longer feature films as upscale theatrical experiences.

Feedback: The tension between short movies as inexpensive entertainment and longer feature films as upscale theatrical experiences.

14 Which of the following is a significant way that epic movies such as Cabiria challenged the screen experience of the nickelodeons?

(A) By creating the model of a single feature film in a formal theater as the focus of the movie experience.

(B) By focusing on a historical subject as the subject matter of the movie.

(C) By bringing European movies to an American audience.

(D) By including special effects in the movie.

Answer: (A) By creating the model of a single feature film in a formal theater as the focus of the movie experience.

Feedback: By creating the model of a single feature film in a formal theater as the focus of the movie experience.

15 What is one way that the Charlie Chaplin short, The Kid Auto Race at Venice, blurs the distinction between fact and fiction?

(A) By using a detailed script that produces the illusion of a documentary.

(B) By featuring a professional comedian as the main character.

(C) By filming the movie on location.

(D) By having Chaplin look directly into the camera and mugging for the theater audience.

Answer: (D) By having Chaplin look directly into the camera and mugging for the theater audience.

Feedback: By having Chaplin look directly into the camera and mugging for the theater audience.

16 Why was Weber's Hypocrites subject to local censorship across the country?

(A) The movie's opposition to the US entry into the First World War.

(B) The movie's excessive display of violence.

(C) The appearance of a naked actor to symbolize Truth.

(D) The scandal of seeing a movie written and directed by a woman.

Answer: (C) The appearance of a naked actor to symbolize Truth.

Feedback: The appearance of a naked actor to symbolize Truth.