

Nichapa Trimungklayon

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1. How and why was Phil trapped?

Phil was a weather reporter. He traveled to Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, to cover the annual Groundhog Day festivities with Punxsutawney Phil. He was get tired of his job because he thought Groundhog Day was ridiculous. After he finished his work, he wanted to go back to Pittsburg right away but he could not because of the snowy storm which forced him to stay in Punxsutawney another night. On the way back, Phil was caught in a giant blizzard. Phil wakes in next morning and finds himself repeating the same day over and over again. He was trapped in the loop of time. He felt like yesterday never happen and tomorrow will never come. He lived long enough to learn about the advantages and the values of each day. So, he tried to be nice with other people.

2. Is Groundhog Day a religious movie? Explain your answer.

In my opinion, I think Groundhog Day is religious movie. The film has a plot relate to Buddhism religion because it has themes of selflessness and rebirth as a reflection of their own spiritual messages. During the time Phil was trapped, his phase was related to one of Buddhist's principle which is the Four Noble Truths. Groundhog Day perfectly illustrates, the continuing cycle of rebirth that Buddhists regard as suffering that humans must try to escape.

3. How would you characterize the phases that Phil goes through? What does he learn as a result of his experience?

In the movie that Phil was trying to help the beggars who happened to be death on that day. Even how hard he tried, he couldn't change anything. Phil has learned the value of life. The most important thing is present. People should spend their time for most advantages in everyday life. People are living in the present and should appreciate every moment of it. Moreover, he has learned to concern about others rather than concentrating in one's idea. This experience made him to be a better person.

4. How is Phil's journey related to Existentialism?

Phil has a freedom to do anything in Groundhog Day. He could do whatever he wanted and there would no consequences. He has to choose right side or wrong side. He realized what was the most important thing to his life. The money became worthless.

Existentialism is a philosophy about the individual's action that responsible for its consequences like a powerful tool, for both good and evil. In the film, at first Phil chose the bad side but at last he chose the good side.

5. What would you do if you were trapped in a "Groundhog Day"?

I would do all things that I haven't chance to do it. But I wouldn't do the bad things. I just wanted to do some excited activity and the activity that could make the benefits for others. I thought I would try spending all of my money for donating to the poor people because I wanted to see their happy face and increased the chance for poor kids. Even I haven't know the consequence, it made me feel happy in my mind.

6. What does your answer to the previous question say about your beliefs about the meaning of life?

I think life is about bringing the happiness to both me and others. The chance that I born to the human was so lucky and I would like to use it wisely. Everything changed through time and nothing would last forever so as life. So, one day is an important as any other day and we don't get the second chance to change it or use it. Appreciating every moment in each day and learning the knowledge of life.