

Groundhog Day and Existentialism Assignment

1. How and why was Phil trapped?

- Phil was a selfish man. He was bored with his work and hated to report about the Groundhog Festival. He was sent to report the news in the Groundhog Day festival of Punxsutawney. After the report at Punxsutawney, he decided to quit from being a weather forecaster. However, at the time he went back to his town, there was the blizzard blocking the roads and all phone networks were disconnected. So, he decided to return back to the hotel and wait for the blizzard to stop on the day, but when he got up at 6.00, he found himself in the Groundhog Day again.

Phil was trapped in the Groundhog Day because he was bored to be a weather reporter, so the only out form here is to behave and learn to enjoy life. This happened in order to make him realize the truth of being human. If he did not enjoy his life during the Groundhog Day, he will stuck here, in the Groundhog Day forever.

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

- I think Groundhog Day is a religious movie. This movie target is to teach human the meaning of life. The movie focuses on a man name Phil, a selfish man and bored with his life. Phil use his time in this endless day by doing what he want and trapped in this world for the rest of his life if he still do the same thing and not try to behave himself. At last, he can pass the Groundhog Day because he had learn the meaning of life by helping people in Punxsutawney.

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

- First, he knew that after today, the time will reset itself and it will be today again.

So he did many things that he wanted but those things cannot fulfill himself so he want to kill himself to make this nightmare end. He decided to do many risky actions like drive a car toward a cliff, criminal activities, jump from high buildings, but those actions were a failure and time will be reset if he kill himself or end up sleeping somewhere else. After those things, he tried to help people in the town by using his time to study them. In the end, he was a hero in the town by saving people lives and won his woman heart, Rita.

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

- Phil had done many kinds of work and success in those careers, but those works could not satisfy him or make him understand the purpose of life. He spent his life meaningless and faces many problems such as despair and boredom. He try him best for the day to enjoy his life and he try to help other people instead of to fulfill his desire. So he choose to live in the way he want to be.

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

- If I was trapped in a "Groundhog Day", I would do like Phil had done. Panic is the first thing because I don't know what in the world is going on, then I will try to make myself happy by doing what I desire. After that I will try to help other people and society and satisfy the current situation and happy with that life.

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

- In my opinion, the meaning of life is to enjoy every moment in my life time. If we are not enjoying in our life, that's means you are not using your life worth enough.

Someone might say that, the meaning of life is to fulfill our desire and self-actualization. For me, enjoy our life and if we try to do the best for today, tomorrow will be better than today for sure.