

http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/memento.html

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☐ THE LISTENING / READING SCRIPT

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/memento.html

Memento is a 2000 American psychological thriller and neo-noir film written and directed by Christopher Nolan. It was adapted from his younger brother Jonathan's short story, Memento Mori. The movie is presented as two different sequences of scenes: a series in black-and-white that are shown chronologically, and a series of color sequences shown in reverse order. The two sequences "meet" at the end of the film, producing one common story. It stars Guy Pearce as Leonard Shelby, a man with anterograde amnesia, which impairs his ability to store new memories. The opening credits show the end of the story, when Leonard commits murder. This killing is probably Leonard's revenge for the rape and murder of his wife.

Memento premiered on September 5, 2000, at the Venice International Film Festival to critical acclaim. It received a similar response when it was released in European theaters starting in October 2000. Critics especially praised its unique, nonlinear storytelling structure and its treatment of the themes of memory, perception, grief, self-deception, and revenge. The film was successful at the box office and received numerous accolades, including Academy Award nominations for Original Screenplay and Film Editing. It didn't win any Oscars, but won 13 awards for Best Screenplay and five awards for Best Picture from various film critic associations and festivals.

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memento %28film%29

☐ TRAILER AND POSTER

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/memento.html

POSTER

1. SIX WORDS: Look at the poster and write down six words (more if you like) that you think of as you look at it. Share the words with your partner(s). Why did you choose them?

You can find posters for this movie at www.imbd.com - just type the name of the movie in the search field.

- **2. STORY:** Talk about what you think the story of the movie is the start, beginning, end, etc. Change partners and share stories.
- **3. CREDITS:** Look at the credits on the poster (the actors, director, producer...) and talk about them with your partner(s).
- **4. MUST-SEE:** Talk with your partner(s) about whether the poster and movie title are good and make you want to see the movie.
- **5. STARRING YOU:** Imagine you are one of the stars of the movie. Talk about your role with your movie star partner(s).

TRAILER

1. RETELL: Watch the trailer and retell what you saw to your partner(s).

You can watch a trailer at http://www.youtube.com

- **2. CHUNKS:** Watch 10-to-15 second chunks of the trailer and retell what you saw to your partner(s).
- **3. QUIZ:** Watch the trailer and write down some quiz questions for your partner(s). Watch a second time to find the answers to the questions.
- **4. VOCABULARY:** Make a note of words in the trailer that you see or hear. Talk about them with your partner(s).
- **5. GOOD / BAD:** Watch the trailer and write down why you think the film might be good or bad. Share your ideas with your partner(s).

■ MATCHING

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/memento.html

SYNONYM MATCH

1. adapted

2 sequences

3. chronologically

4. impairs

5. revenge

6. acclaim

7. response

8. unique

9. accolades

10. various

a. in order of time

b. retaliation

c. assorted

d. modified

e. answer

f. one-of-a-kind

g. timelines

h. praise

i. weakens

j. awards

PHRASE MATCH

1. psychological

2 a series of color sequences

3. impairs his ability to

4. the opening

5. revenge for the rape and

6. critical

7. It received a similar response

8. praised its unique, nonlinear

9. successful at the box office and received

10. various film

a. storytelling

b. murder of his wife

c. critic associations

d. store new memories

e. shown in reverse order

f. numerous accolades

g. credits

h. thriller

i. acclaim

j. when it was released

■ LISTENING / READING GAP FILL

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/memento.html

Memento is a 2000 American (1)noir
film written and directed by Christopher Nolan. It was adapted from his
younger brother Jonathan's short story, Memento Mori. The movie is
presented (2) scenes: a series in
black-and-white (3), and a series of
color (4) The two sequences "meet"
at the end of the film, producing one common story. It stars Guy Pearce as
Leonard Shelby, a man with anterograde amnesia, which impairs his ability
to store new memories. The (5) of the
story, when Leonard commits murder. This killing is probably Leonard's
revenge (6)
Memento premiered on September 5, 2000, at the Venice International Film
Festival to critical acclaim. (7) when it
was released in European theaters starting in October 2000. Critics
especially praised its (8) structure and
its treatment (9), grief, self-deception,
and revenge. The film was (10) and
received numerous accolades, including Academy Award nominations for
(11) It didn't win any Oscars, but
won 13 awards for Best Screenplay and five awards for Best Picture from
various (12)

CORRECT THE SPELLING

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/memento.html

Paragraph 1

- 1. <u>ycoclpolashiq</u> thriller
- 2. two different <u>usqsnceee</u>
- 3. shown in svrreee order
- 4. <u>sipraim</u> his ability to store new memories
- 5. <u>gnionpe</u> credits
- 6. This killing is probably Leonard's <u>regneev</u>

Paragraph 2

- 7. *Memento* mperridee on September 5
- 8. critical mailcac
- 9. its unique, <u>nleoarinn</u> storytelling
- 10. its <u>naemrttet</u> of the themes of memory, perception...
- 11. received uoseumnr accolades
- 12. film critic isscnaoasoti

PUNCTUATE & PUT CAPITALS IN THE TEXT

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/memento.html

memento is a 2000 american psychological thriller and neo-noir film written and directed by christopher nolan it was adapted from his younger brother jonathan's short story memento mori the movie is presented as two different sequences of scenes a series in black-and-white that are shown chronologically and a series of color sequences shown in reverse order the two sequences "meet" at the end of the film producing one common story it stars guy pearce as leonard shelby a man with anterograde amnesia which impairs his ability to store new memories the opening credits show the end of the story when leonard commits murder this killing is probably leonard's revenge for the rape and murder of his wife

memento premiered on september 5 2000 at the venice international film festival to critical acclaim it received a similar response when it was released in european theaters starting in october 2000 critics especially praised its unique nonlinear storytelling structure and its treatment of the themes of memory perception grief self-deception and revenge the film was successful at the box office and received numerous accolades including academy award nominations for original screenplay and film editing it didn't win any oscars but won 13 awards for best screenplay and five awards for best picture from various film critic associations and festivals

INSERT THE VOWELS (a,e,i,o,u)

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/memento.html

M_m_nt_ s _ 2000 _m_r_c_n psych_l_g_c_l thr_ll_r
_nd n__-n__r f_lm wr_tt_n _nd d_r_ct_d by
Chr_st_ph_r N_l_n. _t w_s _d_pt_d fr_m h_s y__ng_r
br_th_r J_n_th_n's sh_rt st_ry, M_m_nt_ M_r_. Th_
m_v__ s pr_s_nt_d _s tw_ d_ff_r_nt s_q__nc_s _f
sc_n_s: _s_r_s _n bl_ck-_nd-wh_t_ th_t _r_ sh_wn
chr_n_l_g_c_lly, _nd _ s_r_s _f c_l_r s_q__nc_s
sh_wn _n r_v_rs_ _rd_r. Th_ tw_ s_q__nc_s "m__t" _t
th_ _nd _f th_ f_lm, pr_d_c_ng _n_ c_mm_n st_ry. _t
st_rs G_y P__rc_ _s L__n_rd Sh_lby, _ m_n w_th
_nt_r_gr_d _mn_s_, wh_ch _mp__rs h_s b_l_ty t
st_r n_w m_m_r_s. Th_ p_n_ng cr_d_ts sh_w th_
_nd _f th_ st_ry, wh_n L__n_rd c_mm_ts m_rd_r. Th_s
k_ll_ng _s pr_b_bly L__n_rd's r_v_ng_ f_r th_ r_p__nd
m_rd_r_f h_s w_f_.

MARK THE SPACES

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/memento.html

Mementoisa2000AmericanpsychologicalthrillerandneonoirfilmwrittenanddirectedbyChristopherNolan.Itwasadaptedfromh isyoungerbrotherJonathan'sshortstory, *MementoMori*. Themovieispr esentedastwodifferentsequencesofscenes:aseriesinblack-andwhitethatareshownchronologically, and a series of color sequences sho wninreverseorder. The two sequences "meet" at the end of the film, prod ucingonecommonstory.ItstarsGuyPearceasLeonardShelby,amanwi thanterogradeamnesia, which impairs his ability to store new memories .Theopeningcreditsshowtheendofthestory, when Leonard commits m urder. This killing is probably Leonard's revenge for the rape and murder ofhiswife. Memento premiered on September 5, 2000, at the Venice Inte rnationalFilmFestivaltocriticalacclaim. Itreceived a similar response w henitwasreleasedinEuropeantheatersstartinginOctober2000.Critics especially praise dits unique, nonlinear story telling structure and its trea tmentofthethemesofmemory, perception, grief, selfdeception, and revenge. The film was successful at the box of fice and rece ivednumerous accolades, including Academy Award nominations for Or iginalScreenplayandFilmEditing.Itdidn'twinanyOscars,butwon13aw ardsforBestScreenplayandfiveawardsforBestPicturefromvariousfil mcriticassociationsandfestivals.

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions) STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

■ MEMENTO SURVEY

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/memento.html

Write five GOOD questions about Memento in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1	STUDENT 2	STUDENT 3
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.



From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/memento.html

	review. er's work	your	partner	your

HOMEWORK

- **1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.
- **2. INTERNET INFO:** Search the Internet and find more information about "Memento". Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.
- **3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about "Memento". What are (did) critics and moviegoers saying (say) about it? How good were the actors' performances? What was good and bad about the movie? Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.
- **4. "MEMENTO" POSTER:** Make a poster about "Memento". Make sure you put tag lines, audience and critics' reviews, why people should see it, etc. Show it to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your posters.
- **5. MY PREQUEL / SEQUEL:** Make your own prequel or sequel for "Memento". Make sure there is a good mix of things to do. Find some good online activities. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback.
- **6. CHARACTER STORY:** Choose one of the characters from the movie. Imagine you are that character. Write your story about what you did in the movie. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback.
- **7. ONLINE SHARING:** Use your blog, wiki, Facebook page, Twitter stream, or any other social media tool to get opinions on "Memento". Share your findings with the class.

■ ANSWERS

SYNONYM MATCH

1. adapted

2 sequences

3. chronologically

4. impairs

5. revenge

6. acclaim

7. response

8. unique

9. accolades

10. various

a. modified

b. timelines

c. in order of time

d. weakens

e. retaliation

f. praise

g. answer

h. one-of-a-kind

i. awards

i. assorted

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Please check for yourself by looking at the movie review on page 2. (It's good for your English ;-)

CREATIVE COMMONS

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