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Space Odyssey 2001 Response

Space Odyssey 2001 is considered to be a classic for a few reasons. The primary reason is because of its philosophical ideas. Throughout the film there are reoccurring forms of symbolism. An example of this is the use of the title in the first scene called, "The Dawn of Man." This scene is set in ancient times and consists mostly of apes going about their lives. One day however, an ape picks up a pointed stone and attacks and kills a warthog. Apes don't usually kill or even attack a harmless warthog, but there must of been something very empowering to the ape about obliterating the warthog. This is the kind of evil that is unfortunately existent in our world to this very day. Ironically, later in the film, conflict occurs with the ship's crew and with the ship's computer. This conflict can be associated with the first scene of the movie where conflict has always existed, even in ancient times. Another reason why this film is a classic is because of its special effects. Some of the special effects were revolutionary for the time that the film was made. Lastly, the film is a classic because of its constant use of artistic symbolism, both visual and audible throughout the film. For example, the Monolith that the apes discover becomes a visual and audible symbol throughout the film. As the Monolith is approached, otherworldly sounds increase in volume. This represents a force of strong energy within the the monolith, into the mind of the one approaching it.

Space travel and space exploration is relevant to our everyday lives because we always have a strong desire to seek out unknown worlds. The monolith in the film is a good example. There was not really a need for anyone to touch the monolith or even approach it. The people and the apes moved towards it simply because they had a desire to find out about something unknown or foreign.

The film is a science fiction film but with some scientific details. An example of the scientific detail would be the way that the crew ate their food and the way that most of the crew was put into hibernation. It is science fiction because we have not executed such voyages in

reality. We do however have the technology to create such voyages.

Stanley Kubric is famous because of his films that contain very intellectual forms of thought. He is also famous because of his classic, "A Clockwork Orange."

One of the things that I liked about the film was how it incorporated classical music into some of the scenes. The way that the music was played in the Jupiter Mission was very artistic and exemplified that longing that man has to explore unknown worlds.