

Ex Machina

0.00 – 17.04

1. How well/poorly does Ava perform in the first of the Turing Test sessions?
2. What does Nathan's misunderstanding of Caleb's "History of Gods" tell us about him?
3. How is this Turing Test different from the standard version and why?

17.04 – 31.00

4. What is the OMD song "Enola Gay" about and what significance might this have in the film?
5. Why does Caleb say that testing Ava through conversation is like a "closed loop"?
6. How well/poorly does Ava do in the second session of the Turing Test?

31.00 - 44.38

7. What's the jibe in the line "I used to think it was death and taxes you couldn't avoid, but actually it's death and shit?"
8. What utterance of Ava's does Caleb cite as evidence of Ava's awareness of her own mind, and his? Do you agree with his view?
9. What does Nathan mean when he compares the information made available through the internet to oil in a world without the internal combustion engine? What analogy is he drawing with the development of an AI?
10. How does Ava do in her third TT session?

44.38 – 58.35

11. Why has Ava been endowed with sexuality?
12. Why does Caleb suspect Nathan has given Ava a sexual dimension?
13. In what way does Nathan claim that Caleb, and by implication all human beings, are programmed?
14. What point is Nathan making when he talks about the Jackson Pollock painting?
15. Do you agree with Nathan that it is possible to "find an action that is not automatic"?
16. What point does the "Black and White Room" thought experiment intend to make about human experience/consciousness?
17. Why do the black and white scenes of Caleb and Ava together in the landscape outside imply?

58.35 – 01.25.00

18. What does Session 5 tell us about Ava's development and the possible nature of her intelligence?
19. What does the Robert Oppenheimer quote and the Prometheus reference imply about the technology?
20. How would you characterize Ava's behaviour in session 6?
21. What was the plan all along? Why was Caleb selected and used in the Turing Test trial?

Concluding Questions

1. How does Nathan's social and empathetic dysfunctionality affect his creations?
2. How could this film be seen as a feminist critique of a particular kind of patriarchal culture?
3. How does Caleb's empathy make him vulnerable to Nathan and Ava's manipulation?
4. Why are there six TT sessions?
5. Why is the film called "Ex Machina"?