Section 1

Fictional character in the Star Wars universe This article is about the Star Wars character. For the infant of the same species, see Grogu. For other uses, see Yoda (disambiguation). Fictional character YodaStar Wars characterYoda in The Empire Strikes Back (1980)First appearance The Empire Strikes BackCreated by George LucasVoiced by Frank Oz Tom Kane John Lithgow Tony Pope Peter McConnell Piotr Michael Performed by Frank OzIn-universe informationFull name YodaSpecies Unknown [1]Gender MaleOccupation Jedi Master Jedi Grand Master Jedi General Affiliation Jedi OrderApprentices Count Dooku Obi-Wan Kenobi Luke Skywalker Yoda (/?jo?d?/) is a character in the Star Wars franchise. He is a small, green humanoid alien who is powerful with The Force. He is a Jedi Master and a leader in the Jedi Order. Frank Oz voices and puppeteers Yoda in the 1980 film The Empire Strikes Back, which was the character's first appearance. Oz voices Yoda in five additional films, puppeteering him in three of them. Yoda also appears in animated series, comics, novels, video games and commercials. Fictional biography Before his death at the age of 900, the 2.2-foot (0.66 m) tall Yoda spent centuries training Jedi.[2] He was the Grand Master of the Jedi Council before the fall of the Galactic Republic and the rise of the Galactic Empire. After the Battle of Naboo, the Jedi Knight Qui-Gon Jinn brought the boy Anakin Skywalker to the Council and requested that he be trained. The Council rejected Qui-Gon's request, partly because Yoda believed that Anakin was overly fearful. After Qui-Gon's death, the Council reneged and allowed Anakin to become an apprentice of Obi-Wan Kenobi.[3][4] The Clone Wars began when Separatists started clashing with the Republic throughout the galaxy. The Separatist faction was led by Count Dooku, a former Jedi apprentice of Yoda. During the Battle of Geonosis, Yoda led

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a legion of clone troopers against Separatist forces. The Jedi Master eventually duelled with Dooku, who had fallen to the dark side and was training under the Sith Lord Darth Sidious.[4][5] As Anakin matured, Yoda was concerned about his potential to turn to the dark side. He assigned him an apprentice, Ahsoka Tano, hoping it would help him grow as a leader.[6] As the Clone Wars raged on, Yoda was visited by the Force spirit of Qui-Gon, who taught him important lessons about the Force. While Yoda was fighting on Kashyyyk, Darth Sidious enacted Order 66, which compelled the clone troopers to annihilate the Jedi. Yoda battled Sidious?who had declared himself Emperor?but could not defeat him.[5][4][7] While Anakin was completing his transition to the dark side as Darth Vader, Yoda went into hiding on Dagobah. He did not train another Jedi until Luke Skywalker approached him many years later at the behest of Obi-Wan, who visited Luke as a Force spirit. Yoda was initially reluctant to mentor Luke, but agreed to the task after encouragement from Obi-Wan. After completing the first part of his training, Luke left Dagobah to help his imperiled friends. Yoda implored him to stay, but Luke could not be dissuaded. When Luke returned to finish his training, Yoda stated that he required no more instruction. On the brink of death, Yoda informed his apprentice that there existed another Skywalker, but he did not disclose the name of this relative. The Jedi Master then disappeared, becoming one with the Force.[4][7][2] Creation The Star Wars franchise was created by George Lucas, who wrote and directed the original Star Wars film (1977).[a] He created the character Obi-Wan Kenobi as a mentor for Luke, and originally planned for Obi-Wan to continue training Luke in the sequel, The Empire Strikes Back.

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However, Lucas ultimately decided that Obi-Wan would die in the first film. Lucas then introduced a new mentor character, who was originally a diminutive frog-like creature called "Minch Yoda".[8][9] The name "Yoda" was chosen because Lucas envisioned the character as a "little Dalai Lama", and

he wanted him to have an "Eastern-sounding" name.[10] One of the film's screenwriters, Lawrence Kasdan, said that Yoda was based on Shimada, the lead samurai from the 1954 Akira Kurosawa film Seven Samurai.[11] The film's visual effects art director, Joe Johnston, sketched hundreds of different versions of Yoda. The design that Lucas finally settled on was described by Johnston as a combination of a leprechaun, a troll and a gnome.[12] Lucas gave Yoda a backward speech pattern because he felt the character needed a unique way of speaking that was more dramatic than an accent.[10] The filmmakers considered several ways of portraying Yoda before they decided on a sophisticated puppet. These potential methods included dressing up a monkey, a child or a dwarf in a Yoda costume, or using stop-motion animation.[b][11] Portrayals and appearances A fully computer-generated Yoda was realized in Attack of the Clones (2002), allowing the character complete freedom of movement for the first time. Yoda was originally portrayed by a puppet created by Stuart Freeborn and Wendy Froud.[14] Freeborn based Yoda's face on his own facial features and those of Albert Einstein, hoping the latter inspiration would make the character appear intelligent.[15][16] Lucas asked Jim Henson, the creator of the Muppets, to perform the puppeteering for Yoda. Henson was busy with another project, however, and recommended Frank Oz for the role.[17][18] To perform Yoda in The Empire Strikes Back, Oz inserted his hand into the puppet's head to manipulate the mouth and brow. Kathryn Mullen, Wendy Froud and David Barclay operated Yoda's

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eyes, ears and other body parts using cables, strings, hydraulics and electronic mechanisms.[19] There was also a radio-controlled Yoda puppet that was used when the Jedi Master is riding on Luke's back.[20] In the original 1999 release of The Phantom Menace, Yoda was portrayed by a new puppet in all but two shots. In these two wide shots, the character was created using

computer-generated imagery (CGI).[21] The puppet was replaced with a digital Yoda in the 2011 Blu-ray release and the 2012 theatrical 3D release.[22][23] In Attack of the Clones (2002) and Revenge of the Sith (2005), Yoda is entirely computer-generated. The digital character accomplishes movements not possible with the puppet, such as fighting with a lightsaber.[24] Oz puppeteers Yoda and provides his voice in The Empire Strikes Back, Return of the Jedi (1983), The Phantom Menace and The Last Jedi (2017), and voices a digital Yoda in Attack of the Clones and Revenge of the Sith.[25][26] He performs vocal cameos as Yoda in The Force Awakens (2015) and The Rise of Skywalker (2019).[27][28] Oz also voices the character in the animated series Star Wars Rebels.[29] Yoda is voiced by John Lithgow in the radio dramatizations of The Empire Strikes Back and Return of the Jedi,[30] by Tom Kane in video games and animated productions, [c] and by Piotr Michael in the animated series Young Jedi Adventures.[32] Tony Pope and Peter McConnell also voice the character in video games.[33][34] In 2012, Yoda was featured in a series of Vodafone commercials, which were broadcast in the United Kingdom.[35][36] Yoda also appears in the novel Yoda: Dark Rendezvous (2005) and the comic The High Republic Adventures (2021).[37][38] See also Yoda? a parody song by "Weird Al" Yankovic Yoda conditions? a style of writing conditionals in computer programming languages Notes ^

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Originally titled Star Wars, the film was later retitled Star Wars: Episode IV?A New Hope. ^ For wide shots of Yoda moving around, the dwarf actor Deep Roy wore a Yoda suit.[13] ^ Kane voices Yoda in The Clone Wars film and television series. He also voices him in Clone Wars, Forces of Destiny and several Lego Star Wars productions.[31] References Citations ^ Newby, Richard (November 15, 2019). "Will 'The Mandalorian' Answer One Question George Lucas Never Did?". The Hollywood Reporter. Retrieved April 27, 2024. ^ a b Star Wars: Episode IV?A New Hope (1977). ^ Star Wars:

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