



## A Brief History of and Life Lessons from Star Wars: The force is with us

By: Michelle Condit



A long time ago in the late 1970s a story from a galaxy far far away came to theaters - its title - STAR WARS, A NEW HOPE, EPISODE IV. In the story a young man named LUKE SKYWALKER was dreaming of a life of adventure traveling away from his home planet of TATOOINE. The writer and director of the original movie was GEORGE LUCAS. What followed spanning the next 40+ years was the Skywalker legacy captured in three trilogies (a group or series of three related things), with the conclusion premiering in 2019 named STAR WARS: RISE OF SKYWALKER.

Spell: THEATERS

Spell: STORY

Spell: ADVENTURE

What is the name of the movie series featuring Luke Skywalker? STAR WARS

Who was the director of the original movie? GEORGE LUCAS

What was Luke Skywalker dreaming of? ADVENTURE, TRAVELING TO OTHER PLANETS

How many are in three trilogies?  $3 \times 3 = 9$

VAKT - a new hope 5 minute summary - <https://lol.disney.com/star-wars-kids/video/star-wars-in-under-five-minutes> -

Question Type Key

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Lucas began a draft of his MASTERPIECE in the early 1970s in his office in MILL VALLEY with the intent to deliver an OPERATIC science fiction movie to the silver screen. He toiled daily on his writing, treating it as a full-time job. The rough draft “The Star Wars” was submitted in May 1974 with 191 scenes and 33,000 words and starred ANNIKIN STARKILLER, who trains to become a Jedi Bendu under 70-year old Luke Skywalker. Over the years multiple drafts adjusted characters, locations and storylines leading to the finalized story of a young Luke Skywalker discovering his DESTINY to become a JEDI (a member of the mystical knightly order in the Star Wars films, trained to guard peace and justice in the Universe). Luke begins training in THE FORCE, which in the movie is a mysterious energy field created by life that binds the galaxy together. Harnessing the force gives individuals sensitive to this spiritual energy extraordinary abilities.

SPELL: DRAFT

SPELL: INTENT

SPELL: RESULT

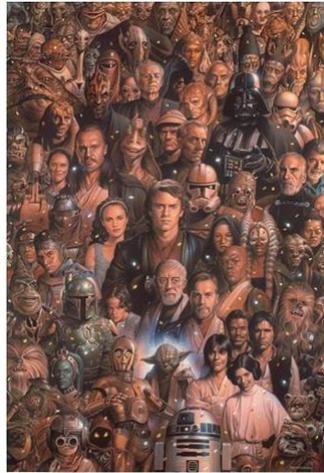
What is a member of the mystical knightly order in the Star Wars films? JEDI

What is the name of a science fiction character? FLASH GORDON, SPOCK, CAPTAIN KIRK

If on average there are 250 words on a page, how many pages was Lucas’s rough draft?  $33,000 / 250 = 132$  pages

What is a skill you would like to gain mastery over, and how will you achieve this?

A New Hope was a box office success, costing \$11 million to make and generating \$775 million at the box office. With a ROTTEN TOMATOES rating of 93% it brought home 6 wins out of 10 OSCAR nominations. The movie held the top ranking for gross earnings in 1977 and now stands at number 100. As a FRANCHISE for its films it grossed more than 10 billion worldwide (unadjusted for inflation).



Spell: SUCCESS

Spell: MOVIE

Spell: WORLDWIDE

If Star Wars won 6 out of 10 of its Oscar nominations, how many did it not win of its nominations?  $10 - 6 = 4$

How many million dollars did Star Wars gross at the box office? 775

What does a Rotten Tomatoes “The Tomatometer” rating represent? The PERCENTAGE OF POSITIVE REVIEWS FOR A GIVEN FILM OR SHOW CALCULATED AFTER 5 REVIEWS.

What do you think is one of the top five films that has the highest gross earnings?

AVENGERS: END GAME, AVATAR, TITANIC, STAR WARS: FORCE AWAKENS, AVENGERS: INFINITY WARS

Media has captured the magic of Star Wars, producing spin-offs, anthologies, critiques and many analyses on life lessons learned from the epic saga. Lessons often are derived from the tension between GOOD and EVIL portrayed through the series as the battle between the REBEL alliance teamed with Jedi’s combating the EMPIRE aligned with the SITH. In a New Hope Luke is a Jedi in training whose path and destiny cross with DARTH VADER, a Sith Lord. Luke is accompanied during his story with a cast of characters including HAN SOLO, OBI-WAN KENOBI, CHEWBACCA and 2 droids named C3PO and R2D2. DARTH VADER is an apprentice to the EMPEROR and their army includes STORMTROOPERS.

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Spell: MEDIA

Spell: TENSION

Spell: DESTINY

Who was the Sith Lord in A NEW HOPE: DARTH VADER

Name a character that accompanied Luke on his journey? HAN SOLO, OBI-WAN KENOBI, CHEWBACCA, C3PO, R2D2

What are different types of media: BOOKS, TV, INTERNET

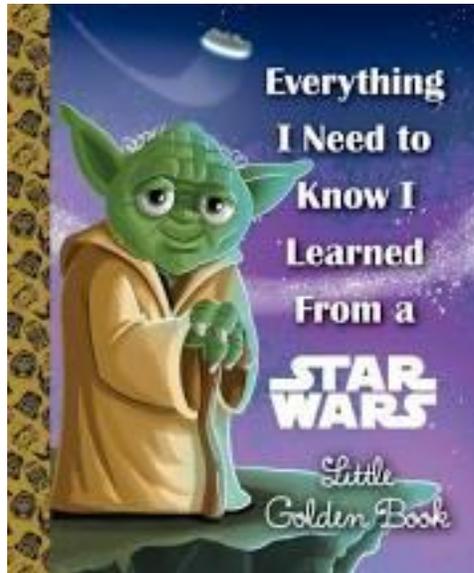
What is an important life lesson that you think nonspeakers can teach others?

VAKT - star wars puzzle - [http://www.hellokids.com/r\\_1744/free-online-games/kids-puzzles-games/star-wars-free-puzzle-games](http://www.hellokids.com/r_1744/free-online-games/kids-puzzles-games/star-wars-free-puzzle-games)

Strong themes for life lessons are throughout the storyline. Whether it be the power of friendship among teams of DIVERSITY with each individual contributing their unique strength or the belief there is good in everyone and no one is beyond saving. The story alludes to components that echo GREEK TRAGEDY (a play dealing with tragic events and having an unhappy ending, especially one concerning the downfall of the main character) with family lineage and destiny at its core, but the Story Wars in Episode IX ends more optimistically. Quotes from the movie series have become familiar within mainstream culture and include “May the force be with you” and “I find your lack of faith disturbing”. YODA, the consummate Jedi arriving for his first appearance on the screen in 1980 in THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK is a source of wisdom for managing life’s challenges.

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Spell: THEMES

Spell: BELIEF

Spell: WISDOM

What is a play dealing with tragic events called? TRAGEDY

Who is a Jedi character that first appears in The Empire Strikes Back: YODA

If the sun is 92.1% hydrogen and the rest is helium, what is the percentage of the sun that is helium?  $100 - 92.1 = 7.9$

What is your favorite genre of a movie, and why?

VAKT - Famous quotes from the movie - <https://www.starwars.com/news/40-memorable-star-wars-quotes>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zl7B3Jc6Fnw>

Much of the series is focused upon the rebel alliance infiltrating the empire's base, which takes different forms throughout. A DEATH STAR is often featured and is thought to be INDESTRUCTIBLE until the rebels uncover its ACHILLES HEEL (a fault or weakness that causes or could cause someone or something to fail) and destroy the structures. In the first movie the Death Star is described as 160 kilometers (99 mi) in diameter, and is crewed by an estimated 1.7 million military personnel and 400,000 droids.

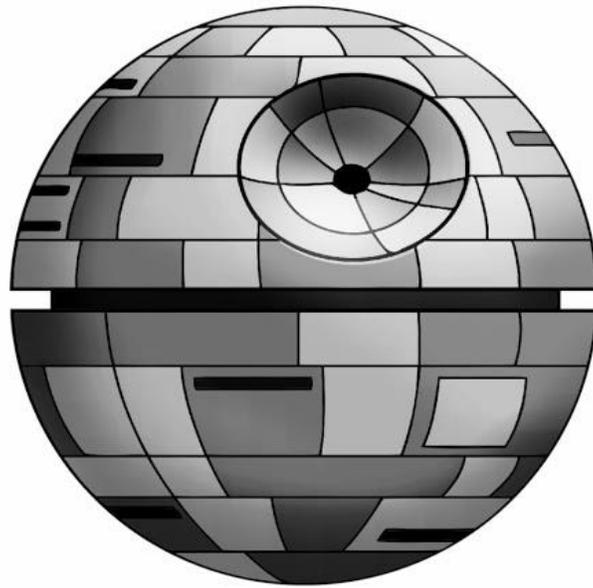
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Spell: INHABITED

Spell: DISTANCE

Spell: WATER

What is a fault or weakness that causes or could cause someone or something to fail? ACHILLES HEEL

Which Star Wars characters may be stationed in the Death Star? DARTH VADER, STORMTROOPERS, EMPEROR, DROIDS

What is the name of another star? SIRIUS, ANTARES, CANOPUS

What is the circumference of the Death Star with a radius of 49.5?  $2 * 49.5 * \sim 3.14$   
=  $\sim 310.86$

The popularity of Star Wars has offered an abundant opportunity for merchandising of the FRANCHISE. From action figures and toys to video games the chance to add MEMORABILIA to one's collection is readily available. Disney acquired Lucasfilm in DECEMBER 2012 for \$2.2 billion in cash and \$1.855 billion in stock. By the end of 2018 it had RECOUPED (regain (money spent or lost), especially through subsequent profits) its investment.

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Spell: POPULARITY      Spell: ABUNDANT      Spell: INVESTMENT

What word means to regain through profits? RECOUP

When did Disney acquire Lucasfilms? DECEMBER 2012

If 4 billion was recouped over 5 years what would be the average amount regained per year?  $4 / 5 = .8$  BILLION

If you were in charge of developing Star Wars memorabilia, what merchandise would you create and who would your target audience be for customers?

### Creative Writing

Luke Skywalker arrives on a never before discovered planet on the outskirts of the galaxy. On the horizon Darth Vader's imperial shuttle is seen approaching with tie fighters closely behind. Share a short story showcasing lessons learned about friendship and diversity from the original Star Wars series.

Create a proposal for development of a new Death Star

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## Resources

<https://www.starwars.com/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Death\\_Star](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Death_Star)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lucasfilm>

<https://www.cnbc.com/2018/10/30/six-years-after-buying-lucasfilm-disney-has-recouped-its-investment.html>

<http://clipart-library.com/luke-skywalker-cliparts.html>

<https://www.google.com/search?q=star+wars+saga+clip+art&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=ZK0jIAJuVwsTXM%252CvI9e-TyWD3zSTM%252C&vet=1&usg=AI4>

<https://www.google.com/search?q=star+wars+saga+clip+art&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=ZK0jIAJuVwsTXM%252CvI9e-TyWD3zSTM%252C&vet=1&usg=AI4>

<https://www.google.com/search?q=clip+art+luke+and+darth+vader+battle&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwitsKv1x9tAhUOvJ4KHxEwASMQAUoAXoECBAQAw&biw=1185&bih=659>

<https://www.google.com/search?q=everything+i+need+to+know+i+learned+from+a+star+wars+little+golden+book&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjViNfN1dtAhXOI54KHdBCB14QAUoA3oEAcQBQ&biw=1185&bih=659>

[https://www.google.com/search?q=death+star+clip+art&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=NpHr3Yp15AGyOM%252C0\\_yrkakmpBp0UM%252C&vet=1&usg=AI4](https://www.google.com/search?q=death+star+clip+art&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=NpHr3Yp15AGyOM%252C0_yrkakmpBp0UM%252C&vet=1&usg=AI4)

[https://www.google.com/search?q=death+star+clip+art&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=NpHr3Yp15AGyOM%252C0\\_yrkakmpBp0UM%252C&vet=1&usg=AI4](https://www.google.com/search?q=death+star+clip+art&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=NpHr3Yp15AGyOM%252C0_yrkakmpBp0UM%252C&vet=1&usg=AI4)

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[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_proper\\_names\\_of\\_stars#:~:text=Only%20a%20handful%20of%20the,follower'%20%5Bof%20the%20Pleiades%5D](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_proper_names_of_stars#:~:text=Only%20a%20handful%20of%20the,follower'%20%5Bof%20the%20Pleiades%5D))

[https://hasbropulse.com/collections/star-wars/?utm\\_source=google&utm\\_medium=search&utm\\_campaign=Star\\_Wars\\_Universe&kid=43700059399901203&gclid=CjwKCAiArIHBRB2EiwALfbH1GRPIXUGzLZ2ssUIEjK7whCrgtC5jLPK0nuEKjdm8fRZVGCBSycAxoCWAAQAvD\\_BwE](https://hasbropulse.com/collections/star-wars/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=search&utm_campaign=Star_Wars_Universe&kid=43700059399901203&gclid=CjwKCAiArIHBRB2EiwALfbH1GRPIXUGzLZ2ssUIEjK7whCrgtC5jLPK0nuEKjdm8fRZVGCBSycAxoCWAAQAvD_BwE)

*The mission of I-ASC is to advance communication access for nonspeaking individuals globally through [training](#), [education](#), [advocacy](#) and [research](#). I-ASC supports all forms of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) with a focus on methods of spelling and typing. I-ASC currently offers [Practitioner training in Spelling to Communicate \(S2C\)](#) with the hope that other methods of AAC using spelling or typing will join our association*

