

The Hurt Locker (2008): Questions

- i. How does the West (Europe and USA) see the East? Think of examples.
- ii. The opening quote of the movie is: "The rush of battle is a potent and often lethal addiction, for war is a drug". What does it mean and how is it related to the movie?
- iii. Was the explosion in the first scene surprising? Why?
- iv. How are the locals represented in the movie?
- v. How do the three male soldiers bond? Why do they start punching each other?
- vi. Why doesn't the main character feel comfortable back home?
- vii. The movie was a big hit in 2009 in the States. It was praised by the critics and the audience alike and it was considered one of the best war movies ever made, showing the rawness of war from an objective and apolitical point of view. The Academy acknowledged the value of the movie by giving it 6 Oscars in 2010 (including for Best Picture and Directing. Kathryn Bigelow became the first and only woman to ever win the award). Do you agree that the movie is apolitical? Why do you think the movie was such a big success?
- viii. Can you think how the concept of Superman is somehow related to the movie?
- ix. In what ways is this movie similar to a Western? Think of the main character and the idea of the frontier.