**MEMENTO (2001)**

**Content Questions:**

1. What is happening to time in the opening scenes?

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1. What is Lenny’s condition?

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1. What does Lenny use to keep track of people and things?

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1. What happened to Lenny’s wife? How does he remind himself?

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1. Who is Sammy Jenkins? How is Lenny different?

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1. What are the “certainties” that Lenny talks about? How do they differ from other memories?

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1. How is Natalie using Lenny?

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1. Who is John G?

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**In Depth Questions:**

1. Lenny states, “The world doesn’t disappear when you close your eyes, does it? My actions still have meaning, even if I can’t remember them. My wife deserves vengeance, and it doesn’t make any difference whether I know about it.” Do you agree?

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1. Lenny argues that memories are unreliable and, thus, his condition has no real impact on his ability to discover truth. “Memory’s not perfect. It’s not even that good. Ask the police, eyewitness testimony is unreliable. The cops don’t catch a killer by sitting around remembering stuff. They collect facts, make notes, draw conclusions. Facts, not memories: that’s how you investigate. I know, it’s what I used to do. Memory can change the shape of a room or the color of a car. It’s an interpretation, not a record. Memories can be changed or distorted and they’re irrelevant if you have the facts.” Lenny’s fact-collecting method relied on Polaroids, tattoos and notes, which served as a kind of surrogate memory. If he didn’t have these devices, what would be left of his fact-collecting method?

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1. The movie closes with Lenny saying, “We all need mirrors to remind ourselves who we are. I’m no different.” Lenny’s “mirrors” were his memory devices. What sort of “mirrors” do people with normal memories rely on to remind themselves who they are?

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