

Hawkeye Extra Discussion Questions

Issue 1

1. What do you notice about Hawkeye's first action? First line? How do these writing choices impact the reader's understanding of this character?
2. Describe the coloring? How does this style fit with the story?
3. How does Fraction use language and sentence structure to set the tone of his work?
4. Describe the art style? How does this style fit with the story?
5. Describe the transitioning between pages 3, 4, and 5. How does Fraction and Aja's decision to end and start pages with these specific panels impact the story and the reader's experience?
6. The first issue of *Hawkeye* tries to emphasize Clint's normalcy. What images and phrases help to further illustrate this idea? Which comic element – art, lettering, text, panel transitions, etc. – is most effective in conveying his normalcy? Explain your reasoning.
7. Superheroes are often portrayed as having glamorous lives – Bruce Wayne's expensive gadgets, Iron Man's party life-style, Captain America's leadership status, and Superman's incredible powers – but Clint is the opposite. How is Clint different and do these differences make him a compelling, likeable protagonist?
8. What is the purpose of intertwining plots of the slum lord and injured dog?
9. How does Clint feel about the dog? Why is this relationship important to the story?
10. How do the citizens respond to Hawkeye? What does this tell the reader about this character?

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Issue 2

1. What impact do the wordless panels have on the story?
2. How does Clint feel about Kate? Provide examples of actions and dialogue to prove your claim.

3. What is different about coloring, lettering, and panel transitions in this issue?
4. Why do Fraction and Aja have a voice over on top of the speech bubble?
5. How is this issue have a similar depiction of Clint as the last issue?
6. What do you notice about the action in this issue?
7. There is one phrase that Clint Barton has repeated a couple times in the first 2 issues of Hawkeye – it is almost his catchphrase or slogan in this run. What is his catchphrase? Does this phrase fit with his character and the comic's tone? Explain your reasoning.
8. Select 2 pages and analyze the panel shapes, transitions, gutters, etc. How do these aspects of the paneling help to tell the story or emphasize the mood, theme characterization, etc.?

Issue 3

1. How do the writers keep the same tone, while continuing to develop the character and keeping the story interesting?
2. What is the purpose of Cherry? How do you feel about this character?
3. How does Fraction depict women in his writing? Focus on language, body positioning, interactions with male characters, importance in plot, actions, etc.
4. Select 2 pages and analyze the panel shapes, transitions, gutters, etc. How do these aspects of the paneling help to tell the story or emphasize the mood, theme characterization, etc.?

Issue 4

1. Javier Pulido is the artist of issues 4 and 5. Describe his style.
2. How is darkness used?
3. Who is wearing a mask? What does the mask signify? Why is the mask important in the story?
4. How are the panel transitions different and how do they impact the story?

5. What does the reveal of Kate as Madame Mystique tell us about her relationship with Clint and her personality/skills?
6. Select 2 pages and analyze the panel shapes, transitions, gutters, etc. How do these aspects of the paneling help to tell the story or emphasize the mood, theme characterization, etc.?

Issue 5

1. How is issue 5 different from any other Hawkeye issue so far? How does this change the reader's experience?
2. How is Hawkeye crashing out of the window in the background mirror what is happening to Madame Mystique?
3. Why is the tape dangerous? What does this tell us about our heroes and how we view them?
4. When a ninja clings to Clint's leg, to prevent himself from falling to his death, how does Clint respond? What does this response
5. Which art style – Aja or Pulido – do you think fits better with the story? Explain your reasoning.
6. Select 2 pages and analyze the panel shapes, transitions, gutters, etc. How do these aspects of the paneling help to tell the story or emphasize the mood, theme characterization, etc.?

Issue 6

1. How do the missing panel lines help to create/mirror the mood in the beginning of the comic?
2. Why does Clint get defensive with Tony Stark?
3. How does the empty space help convey meaning in the issue?
4. Why do they use the collateral of the people's lives as a way to get Barton to leave?
5. What is Kate's purpose in this issue?

6. Story arcs normally last for 5-6 issues. You are done with the first story arc: "My Life as a Weapon". How do these issues fit together and build upon one another to make a story arc, despite their ability to stand on their own as individual stories?

7. When an ongoing series is published in a collection – trade paper back or limited hardcover edition – the publishers have one of the pencilers complete a new piece of cover art for the book. The cover needs to represent the tone, characterization, plot, etc. of the series.

8. Take the comic and put it in chronological order – then read it in that order and see how the reading experience is different. What impact does the first writing and paneling style have on the impact of the story versus typical chronological order?