

Big Trouble in Little China: Comparative Film Analysis

Directions: You have read various texts that examine our country's history of prejudice, specifically bias toward race, culture, and gender. Using your analytical skills, you will examine how an iconic, cult-classic, American, 80s action film examines and challenges American's prejudice toward Chinese and Chinese American culture.

1. What does Jack Burton do in the film? Focus on important, specific actions that develop his character.
2. *Big Trouble in Little China* uses each of the following Chinese stereotypes. Provide 2 specific examples from the film to show evidence of these stereotypes.
 - A) Three Storms

 - B) Martial Arts

 - C) Mysticism

 - D) Lo Pan
3. Why did this film use these stereotypes? Hint: Think about the target audience of this film.
4. Who is the hero in the movie? Support your claim with evidence from the film.
5. Despite the initial cultural backlash and poor film ratings, how does this film challenge American's perceptions of Chinese migrants and Chinese Americans? What is the message of this film? Does this film qualify as racist, appropriation, or progressive? Support your claims with specific details from the film.