



Assignment B: *Errand into the Maze* Answers

Now that you have seen the videotaped performance of *Errand into the Maze* discuss the following questions in your collaborative group of three.

Consider all points of view while considering each question.

Record your answers in writing.

Share and discuss your conclusions, as a group.

1. Describe the structural pattern of the narrative of the choreography.
 - entry into the labyrinth (exposition);
 - confrontation with symbolic fear (conflict);
 - overpowering fear (climax);
 - defeating fear resolution(denouement).
2. Define the symbolic representation of errand and maze. Use specific references from the choreographic text.
 - The maze is the labyrinth of the mind.
 - The errand is to defeat the fear that dwells in the cave of the mind.
 - The Minotaur is the symbolic representation of fear.
3. Illuminate ways that Noguchi's set design and props reinforce the symbolic statements of the text. Be specific.
 - The labyrinth suggests intricate passageways of the mind that must be navigated to avoid being lost or trapped by fear; entering the recesses of the mind to confront fear.
 - The white tape suggests the narrow, direct path one must follow with resolve to delve — in spite of the terrifying odds — into one's inner self.
 - Drawing off the tape and using it to seal off the passageway is a symbolic suggestion of one's determination to fight the fear to the end.
4. Detail ways the dance movement shapes the thematic statement of *Errand*. Be specific.
 - The dancer enters the labyrinth on tiptoe, hesitatingly, reflecting her terror at confronting the monster — fear.
 - Her intense movements in the battle project her determination to stay in the battle.
 - Her dramatic pin movement signals triumph over fear.
 - Her last movement reflects the joy and peace of mind gained by purging fear.
5. Explain ways that the Gian-Carlo Menotti music score reinforces the pace, intensity and outcome of the development of theme. Be specific.
 - shifts in tonality, cadence, swelling intensity at the pitch of battle; and
 - reinforcement of triumph and resolution at the end.