

MULHALL'S READING OF *BLADE RUNNER*

This is a challenging essay and presupposes knowledge of philosophy many of us may not have. Nonetheless, we can work at grasping some of Mulhall's key ideas regarding the film and its significance for understanding human-replicant relations. Dividing the essay into its constituent concerns and focusing on translating each section into our own language might help us grasp the significance of this essay. Read the complete essay once quickly, just to get an overview of Mulhall's approach, and then focusing on your key section, try to articulate in your words his key ideas.

PART ONE: Pages 29 - 31

Mulhall examines the status of the replicants and whether we should recognize their humanity. What does he conclude about their status?

PART TWO: Pages 31 - 35

This part focuses on Deckard and his relationship with Rachel. Mulhall talks a lot about acknowledgement. Can you reconstruct his analysis of Deckard?

PART THREE: Pages 35 - 38

Mulhall turns to an analysis of Roy's quest for more life. How does he evaluate this quest?

PART FOUR: Pages 38 - 41

Mulhall argues that Roy authentically comes to terms with death while Deckard does not. What does he mean by this?

PART FIVE: Pages 41 - 46

In this section, Mulhall addresses a core issue: whether human flourishing is possible in the age of technology. What do you take to be his core message in response to this issue?