Places and forms of power



Mastering robotics is a great form of power. It allows the people who own this technology to be **preeminent in the weapon race**.

Having robots and using them is also a way to demonstrate a certain **power in terms** of engineering and technological advance.

It allows to show that the country using this technology is rich enough to carry out very expensive programs such as this one. It is then a wonderful way to show **the power of money**.



We can see different powers through the extract. First, the power of the mind. Andrew is capable of going to the highest political places to ask for what he thinks is right. His will and his determination are what make him powerful.

Then, we are faced with **political power**. Only through a political decision can he be made human. So, only this power can change his situation.



In this document, we are faced with the power of one man who intends to become the United States' next president.

This is a political speech, and in this speech, Kennedy must convince his audience to vote for him. This is the power of persuasion.

Here, political power is mixed with the power of symbols. Kennedy uses symbols that are very important to the American people. He uses the frontier to justify the need for risks, sacrifices and so on.



In this document, we can see the power represented by the president of the United States. He can decide to send an entire expedition to discover an unknown land.

The amount of information they will gather represents a great knowledge. This **knowledge can be considered as a form of power**, the power of instruction. We can say that one is stronger with better knowledge.



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Here, we can see **the power of the president of the USA**. **(Political power)** With just one decision, he will influence a whole decade. He is explaining to his population that they must win the space race to **show that the USA** are **the most powerful country in the world**.



In this document, we understand the confrontation between the two most powerful countries at that time: the USA and the USSR.

Concerning **Sputnik, it represents the supremacy of the Soviets** at that moment in the space race. The USA are outdistanced.

We also understand that it not only about the space race but about the arms race. The USA are not scared by the satellite but by the rocket capable of sending a huge payload with a fine precision. In other words, **the USA are scared by the Russian's military power**.



This mission is the direct response to Yuri Gagarin's success in space. After being beaten, the Americans finally put a man in space. It shows their power, even if it comes quite late.

The media represent a huge power here. With a TV coverage of the mission, Alan Shepard and the mercury project are instantaneously famous. The mission becomes more famous in the USA than Gagarin's flight. The only difference is made through the use of the media.



Apollo is the final project that should send a man on the Moon. It represents the USA's final achievement in the space race of the 1960's. It is supposed to show the great power of the USA as they are supposed to be the first there.

By reading the goals of the project, we understand that Apollo is not the end of the space conquest for the USA. They intend to be the first, the best and then to use it for other « national interests » which means here that they intend to use what they have learnt to be the most powerful in space.



The USA must hurry in the space race since they have learnt that the Soviets are almost ready to send a man on the Moon. The USA can't afford to lose this battle against the enemy of the Cold War. They must show their power and succeed their mission.



Apollo 11 is the final success proving America's preeminence in space. It shows the world their power.

As a symbol of the USA's power, the astronauts plant an American flag on the surface of the Moon, as if they were claiming this territory.

It is the end of this space race. America has won this battle. They have a political **supremacy** since they beat the Soviets.

In this text, the ring represents power. It shows how power can change people.

Déagol finds the ring in the river but as soon as Sméagol sees it, he instantaneously wants it. Power is seductive. It attracts people. Here, this power is so intense that Sméagol decides to kill his friend in order to get that power.

Sméagol is not completely responsible of his actions. He may have the ring but it's the ring that is controlling him. It shows that power changes people in a way that they can't do anything against it.

Power can also trigger jealousy. This is what happens to Sméagol. He thinks he is being rejected from the village because people are jealous of his power. As soon as one person owns something that others don't, it sets a difference and can ignite potential conflicts.

Finally, with the story of Sméagol, we see that the only thing that mattered for him was to keep his power, at any cost. He even became suspicious of the sun that could watch him. In his situation, his great power is not to be shared with anyone.

The physical change is one necessary step in the transformation of this character. His inner darkness and consumption must be seen on the outside. This is why Sméagol turns into a monstrous creature. He is also called Gollum, as a way to show that the person he was prior to the change is now long gone. Power has consumed Sméagol and he has become the monster Gollum.

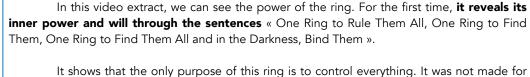




In this extract, we can see how the ring is attractive to Frodo. He feels attracted to it without really being aware of it. It shows that power can twist someone's mind without being noticed.

Gandalf explains that he doesn't want to get this power. He understands the evil that is within this ring and knows what would happen if he owned it. It proves his wisdom in a situation where many people would have accepted Frodo's proposition. He fears to be unable to control himself with such a great power in his hands.

Through the story of the origins of the ring, we understand that a negative power can never be used for good. We also understand that it is necessary to know the consequences of a great power before accepting its burden. In other words, not everybody is capable of owning a great power.



good and so, cannot be used for good, even with the best intentions.

enemy »

Aragorn has understood that and tells it to Boromir who wanted to « use it against the

Each race shows its power with a weapon or a certain characteristic: sword for humans, bow for elves, ax for dwarves, magic for wizards and determination for hobbits. Each characteristic symbolizes the main power of each race.

We are faced with the attractive power of the ring since Boromir is attracted by it the second he sees it. He walks to it without really controlling what he's doing. Just like Sméagol killing Déagol or Frodo putting the ring back in his pocket without noticing it, we understand the immense power of the ring and how fast it can attract and deceive people.

In this video extract, we can see the power of masters over slaves. It is explained in the first moments of the video. If slaves run away, they get killed instantaneously. It proves they are considered as simple objects and property.

Qui-Gon represents the power of the Republic and also the power of the Jedi. Just like in the council of Elrond, he owns a typical weapon that represents his power. Anakin knows it and tells him « only a Jedi can carry that sort of weapon ». So, it is clearly identifiable.

We also understands the special powers of the little Anakin. He says he is « the only human who can [race with pods] » So, we start understanding that he may have special powers. He is also very skilled and can repair anything. We see the robot he has built and it shows his great skill.

Power of money. Only with money can Qui-Gon free Anakin. It shows that money, whatever the place, remains an important power that can influence almost anybody.

Power of decision. Anakin is faced with a terrible decision: either stay with his mother or go with Qui-Gon and fulfill his dream. He must make a quick decision that will influence the rest of his life.







In this video extract, we can see the evolution of Anakin. **He has become a powerful Jedi**.

Anakin had a nightmare he considers to be a premonition. **This power of seeing the future** will lead him to go save his mother.

Anakin uses his Jedi powers to slaughter all the people in the village after his mother dies.

After his return, Anakin explains to Padmé that he wants to become the most powerful Jedi ever. He wants to learn to stop people from dying. This power does not exist but it he says he wants to find the way to stop death.

Even if Anakin is very powerful he doesn't have the power to control his emotions which is an important aspect of being a Jedi.

Through the video extracts, we can see **Anakin being attracted more and more by the idea of getting more power**. Just like the ring, power is here something that Anakin wants and it seems he can't stop wanting more and more.

« Power corrupts, absolute power corrupts absolutely ». Here, it means that Anakin is asking for a power so strong that it might just destroy him.

Chancellor Palpatine obtains the ultimate power by receiving emergency powers. It means he can do anything he wants. It's like a dictator. The only difference being that the republic gave him his special powers. We can compare this to the rise of chancellor Hitler in 1930's Germany.

« All who gain power are afraid to lose it » Through the story of Darth Plagueis, we understand the moral of the story which is that nobody can keep a power forever because others will be wanting it. Power triggers jealousy, envy in other people's mind.

Darth Plagueis has found the way to cheat death. So, he obtained the ultimate power of Gods. Anakin is interested in this and he will <u>be capable of sacrificing everything in order to</u> obtain it.

When Chancellor Palpatine is arrested, he reveals his real personality. When he kills Mace Windu, he tells only 2 words that **reveal his true desire: « Power, unlimited power »** So, we understand that he plotted everything form the beginning in order to obtain the ultimate and absolute powers.

Anakin finally saves the chancellor knowing that this is the wrong choice because **he's** being blinded by his desire to get the power to cheat death. Only this desire will finally fail him.

Finally, fighting Obi-Wan Kenobi, **he overestimates his powers and ends up punished by becoming a monster.** He is consumed <u>both on the inside</u> and the outside, revealing then all his desires for more power.

Just like Sméagol becoming Gollum after owning the ring of power, **Palpatine** becomes a monster on the outside since it reveals his inner desires for power. His physical aspect transpires his monstrosity. The same thing happens for Anakin. After saving the chancellor, he turns to the dark side and pushes forward his change. **He seize to be Anakin to become Darth Vader and his physical aspect is forever changed into a mechanical monster, revealing then his dehumanization**.

Ironically, Padmé dies because after seeing Anakin changing into a monster, she had no will to live. She will then die in childbirth, fulfilling Anakin's premonition. The irony comes form the fact that Anakin's need for more power to save Pamé was the origin of her death. Had he stayed a Jedi and not given in to his pulsions and desires, she would have been saved. It shows that power is never the answer to a problem.

