

This is why humanity needs Superheroes . . .

“Why does humanity need Superman?”, wrote Lois Lane, the reporter from the Superman series. It’s a very relevant question in our context too. Why do we need superheroes? We are all enchanted by the action sequences in superhero movies, and also by how the superhero can always save the day – and with good reasons.

If you’re trying to guess what it is, you can forget about powers like super-strength, laser vision, or — our personal favorite — the ability to consume any type of matter in the universe. The underlying reason we’re so enamored of them is quite possibly the best superhero power - the way they can inspire and motivate us. From the smallest boy and girl wonders, to the oldest Captains - each superhero has had their own lesson to impart unto all of us.

Whether it’s Batman saving Gotham city, Superman saving humanity, or our very own Krissh saving his fellow countrymen - we need superheroes because they give us the hope and strength we need to fight the injustice we encounter today. It’s like Batman once said, “Sometimes the truth isn’t good enough. Sometimes people deserve more. Sometimes people deserve to have their faith rewarded”.

Yes, it’s true that we need faith today, when we know a lot tends to go wrong, whether it is with regard to terrorism, or growing crime - people need the hope and strength they get from superheroes. That’s why we need superheroes, because of how they give us a sense of right, which helps us fight the injustice happening around us. It was best summarized by Superman when he said that “There is a superhero in all of us, we just need the courage to put on the cape, “and by Batman in the Dark Knight, when he said that “You either die a hero or live long enough to see yourself become the villain.”

So, every time we choose to see a superhero movie, it gives us a nudge to fight the unjust with our own ideas or capabilities. Every child and adult that watches superhero movies will be motivated to rise above the injustice happening in the real world. It’s not just about the power, but also the principle.

You and I can also be a superheroes just by helping our neighbors, and by standing against-what is wrong. Whether the situation is political or apolitical, injustice can be fought with thoughts of righteousness and courage.

From the day we are born, we are told that power corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely, but superheroes fan our subconscious desire for greatness. They also teach us that the greatest power is the integrity that keeps us from going down the wrong path. None of us will ever leap a tall building in a single bound, change the course of a mighty river, or bend steel with our bare hands but we can always return that lost wallet with its contents intact, tell the truth when it matters, stand our ground when it’s easier to walk away and unto others as we would want them to do unto us.

Based on your reading of the passage answer the questions that follow:

- 1. Despite our age and status in life, few enigmatic qualities endear us to superheroes. Select the correct options from below.**
 - i. give our subconscious a desire for greatness**
 - ii. have a lesson to bestow**
 - iii. inspire and motivate us**
 - iv. give us hope to fight the bad**

Select the correct option:

- a) i and iii
- b) ii and iv
- c) iii and iv
- d) i, ii, iii, iv

2. Identify the sentence where the word “bestow” has been used incorrectly.

- a) He was ever ready to take blame on himself and bestow praise on others.
- b) During the ceremony, the Prime Minister will bestow medals of honor to the brave soldiers who rescued their comrades.
- c) The king will bestow a title and land to the man who saved the princess.
- d) If you want to avoid a misunderstanding, I bestow you to consider your words before speaking.

3. “There is a superhero in all of us, we just need the courage to put on the cape.” By this, Superman is implying that:

- a) the cape is heavy and not everyone can bear it.
- b) we all have special powers
- c) the ability to fight the unjust with our own ideas or capabilities is present in all of us
- d) society needs superheroes

4. According to the writer, how can a common man become a superhero?

- i. Bend steel, change the course of rivers
- ii. Stand up against injustice, return that wallet intact
- iii. Help around the neighborhood

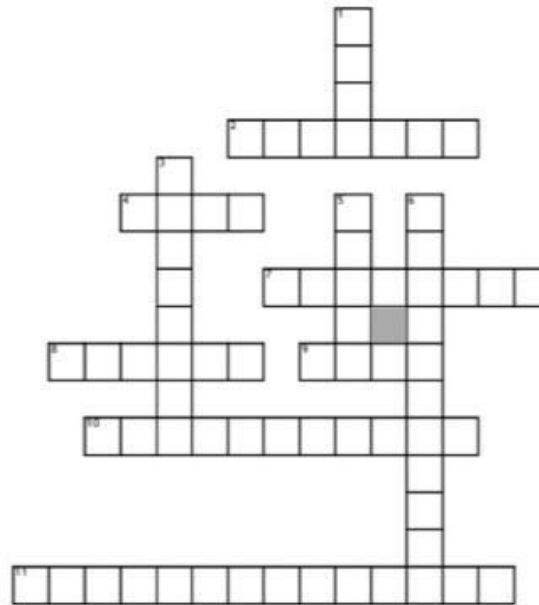
Select the correct option:

- a) Only iv
- b) ii and iii
- c) i and iii
- d) i and ii

5. A superpower common to all superheroes that endears them to us is

- a) the ability to strategise.
- b) the ability to remain calm in the face of danger.
- c) the capability to motivate and inspire humans.
- d) the capability to lend a helping hand to humans.

Now, for some fun



Across

2. Which superhero has a red metal suit?
4. Which superhero is as green as an apple?
7. Which Teen Titan can turn into animals?
8. Which superhero has a best friend named Robin?
9. Which Norse God uses a hammer?
10. What is the name of the only girl in the Justice League?
11. Who are Bubbles, Blossom and Buttercup also known as?

Down

1. Wolverine is part of which group?
3. Which superhero flies faster than a speeding bullet?
5. Barry Allen is also known as The _____
6. What is Spidermans real name?

ANSWER KEY:

1. d
2. d
3. c
4. b
5. c

FUN PUZZLE

- i) X Men
- ii) Iron man
- iii) Superman
- iv)Hulk
- v)Flash
- vi)Peter Parker
- vii)Beast Boy
- viii)Batman
- ix)Thor
- x)Powerpuff Girls

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