

Title	Blade Runner
Director	Ridley Scott
Date	1982, director's cut 1992, final cut 2007
Area	Self and Personal Identity
Theme	Personhood and Moral Worth
Plot Summary	A future society is infiltrated by four laboratory-created replicants, who have escaped from the outer colonies. They are intent on meeting their maker, Dr Tyrell head of Tyrell Corporation, to extend their life span beyond their allotted four years. As faulty machinery, they have to be tracked down and destroyed by the blade runner Deckard (Harrison Ford). While pursuing the replicants he falls for a woman, Rachel (Sean Young), who he knows to be a replicant but who does not herself know this. In the final confrontation with the leader of the replicants, Roy Batty (Rutger Hauer), he is confronted with a very 'human' creature. The film humanizes the androids primarily by giving them sophisticated emotions. The 'Voigt-Kampf' test used to determine whether a creature is human or a replicant measures capacity for empathy. Batty exhibits empathy in the final scene when he saves Deckard from falling to his death, even though the latter is trying to kill him.
Key Scenes	Administration of Voigt-Kampf test to the replicant Leon [3.50 -6.36] Deckard suggests that Rachel is a replicant, her memories implants; at the same time her emotional response starts to change his view of her.[29.50 – 34.45] Long scene in Deckard's apartment with Rachel and Deckard. She acknowledges she is a replicant, but her emotional response humanizes her in Deckard's eyes.[1.00.39 -1.09.02] Confrontation between Deckard and Roy, in which Roy's 'human' performance underlines the humanization of the replicants through their emotional complexity. [1.30.43 – 1.43.55]
Relevant Text	Mary Midgley, 'Persons and Things', in P. Singer ed. Applied Ethics