Clip #1: Obi-Wan Explaining the Force to Luke in *A New Hope*

Film: *A New Hope*: Episode IV (1977)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RroB_8Lhogs

Summary: This explanation by the former Jedi Master Obi-Wan Kenobi to Luke Skywalker centers on the concept of “The Force.” Obi-Wan’s explanation has connections to the concept of Taoism and the concept of “The Way.”

Clip #2: Obi-Wan Conversing With Darth Vader in *A New Hope*

Film: *A New Hope*: Episode IV (1977)

http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=8kpHK4Y1wY4

Summary: This clip focuses on the meeting between the former student Darth Vader and his mentor Obi-Wan. The scene provides context related to multiple Eastern philosophies. There is the teacher/student relationship discussed by Confucius and how its failing can lead to an inharmonious life. Additionally, Obi-Wan’s quote is a foreshadowing of the Buddhist trait of the Eight-Fold-Path. Obi-Wan tells his former student, “If you strike me down, I will become more powerful than you could ever imagine.” Obi-Wan knows that if he dies, he will be reborn/reincarnated as a higher being (A Force Ghost), but he knows that this can only be accomplished with a proper understanding of the Force. This is something that Vader does not comprehend at this point, and thus does not understand how his former mentor can reach his nirvana state-of-mind (or even understand what Obi-Wan is talking about).
Clip #3: Yoda Training Luke in *The Empire Strikes Back*

[http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=HMUKGTkiWik](http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=HMUKGTkiWik)

Film: *The Empire Strikes Back: Episode V* (1980)

**Summary:** Jedi Master Yoda's training of Luke deals with multiple aspects of Eastern religions. Yoda is reflecting Buddha in his appearance and knowledge. Also, Yoda's home on the swampy planet of Dagoba has a Buddhist connection. Swamps are the location of the lotus flower. A symbol associated with Buddhism, the flower represents beauty in a location not known for it. This concept can also see Yoda as a “lotus” in the film except Yoda's beauty is knowledge.

This scene also continues the theme of the Confucius concept of the master and the teacher relationship.

Finally, Taoism is reflected in this scene with Yoda's explanation of the religion of the Force. The Force, and more specifically Yoda's description of it, is very similar to the Taoist concept of “The Way/Tao” and its strong connections to nature.

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Clip #4: Luke and Darth Vader Confronting in *The Empire Strikes Back*

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C-Del3ohVbY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C-Del3ohVbY)

Film: *The Empire Strikes Back: Episode V* (1980)

**Summary:** This showdown between Darth Vader and Luke reflects again the Confucius concept of the need for harmonious relationships in life. In this case, it is the connection between father and son. Without the harmonious improvement of this relationship, Luke cannot reach his full potential.

This conflict also reflects the Taoist concept of balance in life—the Yin and the Yang. Luke represents the good/light side of the Force and Darth Vader the dark side of the Force.
Clip #5: The Death and Redemption of Anakin in *Return of the Jedi*

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=McUwVg6MfOk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=McUwVg6MfOk)

Film: *The Return of the Jedi: Episode VI* (1983)

**Summary:** This scene reflects the harmony that Luke and Darth Vader need to both find peace in life and thus reach their full potential. For Vader this is being able to reach the nirvana-type stage Yoda and Obi-Wan achieve in death/reincarnation. For Luke this is reaching his full potential as a Jedi Knight.