Singin in the Rain discussion Questions

Question:
Although *Singin' in the Rain* is a fun spoof of Hollywood and musicals, we can learn about changes in filmmaking from the film. The first talkie, *The Jazz Singer*, was a real film that came out in 1927. They refer to it in *Singin in the Rain*. What can *Singin' in the Rain* tell us about the challenges for the film industry and film makers in the switch from silent films to "talkies?"

Answer:
The basic plot of the film revolves around the transition from silent to talkies. Before, all an actor or actress needed was a pretty face that could make expressions. When talkies were introduced, people didn't think it would go over well, but society proved otherwise that it was what they wanted. As media works today, the next big thing is what everyone wants. With talkies, not only did the actors need the perfect face, but great acting skills and a good speaking and/or singing voice. As the main character realized, he was not a true actor, but he could sing. Lina Lamont, however, could not sing or use the ideal acting voice. This caused Kathy to basically give Lina her voice in order to make a good movie.

Daniel Loudon’s response:
This movie portrays the change in the actor rather than the change in the film. The actor must change to improve themselves with now not only making the gestures of an actor but also have the voice of a singer too. They do not have to sing but they will be judged on their voice also. Now the industry must find a perfect person who can act as well as have a good voice, to pronounce the words correctly and have a voice which can be understood by any audience. Much
more challenging. So all in all we can learn about the difficulties of the actors in the movie "singin' in the rain"

My response:

Some interesting points! The transition from silent films to talkies began the process of picking the right actor or actress for a role in a film. Before, good looks were all it took and they adapted. Now the right speaking and/or singing voice, looks, and style of acting all play a large role. Actors basically are known for certain genres of films they have been involved with, such as Jim Carrey in comedies, or Chuck Norris in action films.