The original [Star Wars](http://voices.yahoo.com/topic/6197/star_wars.html) trilogy (Episodes IV, V, and VI) told the story of Luke Skywalker, a young farm boy who became a hero in the struggle to overthrow an evil empire and had to confront one of the Empire's staunchest henchmen, Darth Vader, who Luke finds out is his father.

The new Star Wars trilogy will go back in time a full generation to tell the story of Anakin Skywalker, the innocent boy who will one day become the dreaded Darth Vader.

Character List:

**Anakin Skywalker**—Luke and Leia’s Father, later turns to the dark side to become Darth Vader.

**Luke Skywalker**—Son of Darth Vader, once a farm boy who later becomes a Jedi Knight and fights with the Rebels.

**Princess Leia**—Daughter of Darth Vader, adopted as a princess, a member of the rebellion.

**Obi-Wan Kenobi**—Anakin and Luke’s mentor and teacher. He helps them both become Jedi Knights, but is killed by Anakin (Darth Vader).

**Queen Padme Amidala**—Anakin’s Wife, mother to Luke and Leia who dies in childbirth.

**Emperor Palatine**—Rules the new dictatorship-like government, manipulates and controls Darth Vader.

**Hans Solo**—friend to Luke and Leia and a Rebel pilot

**Chewbacca**—Hans Solo’s really hairy co-pilot and friend

**R2D2**—a little robot that hangs out with the gold robot named C3p0

**C3p0**—the gold robot that hangs out with the little robot named R2D2

**A Death Star**—A big space ship that can blow up planets and shaped like a moon.

**Jedi Knight**—a special knight who has supernatural abilities, mostly related to mind control and light saber fighting.

**The Force**—a force that Jedi knights have; it gives them their supernatural abilities and it could be used for good or evil (the dark side).

Episode I: The Phantom Menace (1999)  
In Episode I, Luke Skywalker's father is just a hopeful 9-year-old boy named Anakin, who knows nothing of his eventual fate as a Dark Lord in years to come. In this earlier time, Obi-Wan Kenobi is a determined young Jedi Knight who trains Anakin even though some people are worried he is too old to be properly trained. This first chapter in the Star Wars saga follows young Anakin Skywalker's journey as he pursues his [dreams](http://voices.yahoo.com/theme/872/dreams.html) and confronts his fears in the midst of a galaxy in crisis.

Episode II: Attack of the Clones (2002)  
The Star Wars saga continues in Episode II, as Anakin Skywalker grows into a teenager, learning the ways of the Force under the tutelage of Obi-Wan Kenobi, and falling in love with the beautiful and captivating Queen Padme Amidala of the Naboo - a love that is eventually doomed as young Anakin begins his journey towards The Dark Side.

Ten years after the events of the Episode I, not only has the galaxy undergone significant change, but so have our familiar heroes Obi-Wan Kenobi, Padmé Amidala and Anakin Skywalker as they are thrown together again for the first time since the Trade Federation invasion of Naboo. Anakin’s mother is murdered. Anakin has grown into the accomplished Jedi apprentice of Obi-Wan and also a teacher of new Jedi students. The two Jedi are assigned to protect Padmé whose life is threatened by a faction of political separatists who wanted to destroy the democracy of the galaxy. As [relationships](http://voices.yahoo.com/theme/1394/relationships.html) form and powerful forces collide, these heroes face choices that will impact not only their own fates, but the destiny of the Republic, and Anakin starts to flirt with the line of good and evil by killing the person responsible for his mother’s murder.

Episode III: Revenge of the Sith (2005)  
The story opens with Anakin and Obi-Wan returning from a space mission to find capital of the republic under attack by a Separatist fleet. From there, different men come into power, and Anakin is later used and manipulated by Palpatine (the evil man who later becomes the emperor and overthrows the democracy of the galaxy). Anakin helps kill most of the Jedi Knights (including children) except for Obi-Wan and Yoda (the little green guy). Obi Wan and Anakin have an epic battle, and Obi-Wan eventually wins, with Anakin left legless and armless near a lava flow. Anakin is rescued by Palpatine and is turned into Darth Vader, loyal servant to Emperor Palpatine. Obi-Wan flees with Padme, who gives birth to twins and dies—Leia is raised as a princess while Luke goes to live with Anakin's relatives on Tatooine (although he doesn’t know his true identity or connection to Darth Vader yet). Yoda insists that they not be trained as Jedi in any way whatsoever.

Episode IV: Star Wars: A New Hope (original 1977)   
This takes place many years later after the whole Anakin-goes-to-the-dark-side-and-his-twins-are-all-grown-up-and-don’t-know-the-dad-is-really-Vader time period. Princess Leia - a member of the rebellion - calls upon the help of Obi-Wan to deliver secret plans of the Empire's newly created battle station to her home planet. Obi-Wan (now in his 60's) enlists the help of Luke Skywalker (Anakin's son), pilots Han Solo and Chewbacca, and droids - R2-D2 and C-3PO - to deliver the plans but their trip is slightly altered when they find themselves trapped inside the Empire's Death Star and Obi-Wan finds himself in the presence of Darth Vader one last time. Obi-Wan is killed by the very boy he mentored and trained years ago.

Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back (1980)   
Vader locates the Rebel base on the ice planet and prepares a full-scale attack. The rebels however are alerted to their presence and begin the evacuation. Luke escapes successfully to meet his newly assigned Jedi Master, Yoda, on a new planet to be trained as a Jedi Knight. Later, Luke does meet face to face with Vader, fights him and loses, and finds out that Darth Vader was actually his father Anakin Skywalker, all while loses his own arm (just like his Dad did years ago—ironic, huh!).

Han Solo, Chewbacca and Princess Leia aren't so lucky as there are also being pursued constantly by Darth Vader and his Imperial army. Han Solo is later captured and turned over to Jubba the Hut (Jubba is basically a gangster and Solo owed him money) and he is frozen in some metal space stuff.

Episode VI: Return of the JedI (1983)   
While our rebel heroes attempt to rescue their friend Han Solo from the clutches of Jabba the Hutt, the tyrannical Empire has begun construction on a second and more powerful Death Star. Luke Skywalker in the meantime, still struggling to come to terms with his past, must resist the will of Darth Vader and Emperor Palpatine in turning him to the Dark Side.

Other questions I have…