**World War II - Film Analysis Worksheet**

You need to choose a film that is set during World War 2 in Europe or the Pacific. The eligible films are on the back of the page.

The purpose of this assignment is for you to **watch a film you haven't seen** and analyze it with your understanding of US History and World War 2.  You need to watch it with a critical eye towards how the movie is treating the historical topic we are studying.

**In a typed one-page report, answer the following questions:**

**Step 1. Pre-viewing**

A.  Title of film: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

B.   What do you think you will see in this motion picture? List Three concepts or ideas that you might expect to see based on the title of the film. List some characters you might expect to see based on the title of the film.

**Step 2. Post-viewing**

A.   Circle the things that you listed in the previewing activity that were validated by your viewing of the motion picture.

B.   What is the central message(s) of this motion picture?

C.   How are Allies and the Axis portrayed in this film? Which side is favored?

D.  War films can be intended to make viewer think about the horrors of the war and how to prevent them, or they can be patriotic in nature. Which issue is this film addressing? Give me two examples to support this.

E.  Consider the effectiveness of the film in communicating its message. As a tool of communication, what are its strengths and weaknesses?

F.   How do you think the filmmakers wanted the audience to respond?

G.   Does this film appeal to the viewer's reason or emotion? Explain with an example. How does it make you feel?

H.   List and describe two events that actually occurred during the War that are portrayed in the film. (You may need to research this)

I.   What information do you gain about this event that would not be conveyed by a written source? Be specific.

**Eligible World War II films**

**Band of Brothers** Not Rated; 2001; Color; Tom Hanks (at least two episodes, i.e. two hours worth)

**Boy in the Striped**PG-13; 2008; 2008; Color; Asa Butterfield       **Pajamas**

**Casablanca**    Not Rated; 1942; B&W; Humphrey Bogart

**Charlotte Gray** PG-13; 2001; Color; Cate Blanchett

**Enemy at the Gates** R; 2001; Color; Jude Law

**Eye of the Needle** R; 1981; Color; Donald Sutherland

**Fat Man and Little Boy**    PG-13; 1989; Color; Paul Newman

**The Great Escape** Not Rated; 1963; Color; Steve

McQueen

**Life Is Beautiful** PG-13; 1998; Color; Claudio Alfonsi

**The Longest Day**    Not Rated; 1962; B & W; John Wayne

**Memphis Belle**    PG-13; 1990; Color; Matthew Modine

**Midway**    PG; 1976; Color; Charlton Heston

**Patton**    PG; 1970; Color; George C. Scott

**The Pianist** R; 2002; Color; Adrien Brody

**Saints and Soldiers** PG-13; 2003; Color; Kirby Heyborne

**Schindler's List** R; 1993; Color; Liam Neeson

**South Pacific**    Not Rated; 1958; Color; Rossano Brazzi

**The Thin Red Line** R; 1999; Color; Kirk Acevedo

**Tora! Tora! Tora!**    G; 1970; Color

**Tuskegee Airmen**    PG-13; 1995; Color; Lawrence Fishburne

**Valkyrie**                           PG-13; 2008; Color; Tom Cruise