Name _____ Date _____ Hour _____

Forrest Gump Movie Worksheet

Pre-Video Thoughts: Forrest Gump is a made-up character (fictional) but he and his friend Jennie live through many major historical events. Pay attention to the cars, clothes, music, Jennie's haircuts, etc. It is all chosen carefully to portray the different decade accurately. Don't miss anything while you enjoy the story.

Most answers are found in the movie…some will require additional research after you watch the movie.
Those are the questions in italic font.

1. How does Forrest pay for college?
2. What college does he attend?
3. Who are the "coons" trying to go to school?
4. *When were schools in Alabama desegregated?* How was this done?
5. What is a co-ed college?
6. Why does the Army think Gump is a genius?
7. Who teaches Gump about shrimpin'?
8. What does Gump know about Vietnam before he goes?
9. What is Jennie's advice about Vietnam? *When did we start fighting in Vietnam?*
10. Describe the fighting conditions in Vietnam (at least what this movie shows).
11. What is the family tradition that Lt. Dan has to live up to?
12. *Who was the "**Charlie**" they were looking for?*
13. Lt. Dan calls in an air-strike. They are going to "Nape" the area. Nape is a nickname for Napalm - *What is napalm?*
14. It might seem random that Gump learns ping-pong; *but remember "**Ping Pong Diplomacy**?" Explain its significance*
15. There was a protest at the Capital that Gump gets swept into…what were they protesting?
16. In addition to the "hippies" what other social-reform group does Gump meet during this time (introduced by Jennie in Washington D.C.)?
17. Gump meets John Lenin…*who was John Lenin*?
18. Lt. Dan represents the disgruntled Vietnam War veterans. ***Why was it difficult for soldiers that returned from Vietnam, esp. compared to WWII veterans?***
19. Why did Lt. Dan say he would be the first mate on Gump's shrimp boat?
20. Even with the singing and praying, they aren't catching any shrimp. Then "God shows up." What is the name of the hurricane they luckily survive?
21. How did Bubba Gump Shrimp finally find success?
22. What fruit company is he talking about…that they invested in?
23. How did Forrest use the money from selling his shrimping business?
24. Jennie is really tired…*what disease do you think she has?* (think of the time period)
25. What kind of shoes did Jennie give to Forrest? *What year did this company start*

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After viewing the Movie Forrest Gump, answer the following questions, providing evidence. (5pts each)

1. Define the counterculture. Which character best portrays the counterculture throughout the film? Provide examples that illustrate this portrayal.

2. How is the generation gap evidenced throughout the film (provide examples)?

3. In the 1960's and 1970's there was a growing distrust among politicians. Explain how this distrust is represented in the film. Provide examples of conversations/events.

4. Choose one character from the film and identify their historical significance (how does that character portray specific aspects of history).