Name: _____ Date: _____ Due Date: _____

To Live Movie Worksheet

Do Now: Predict, what is the meaning of the title of the film; "To Live"

1. Fugui seems to portray the corruption of Chinese society before the Communist takeover in 1949. What events transform him?

2. Jiazhen betrays common stereotypes of Chinese women as weak and submissive. Note the ways that she takes charge of her own and her children's lives. In what ways does she convey conventional wifely loyalty?

3. Fengxia is a daughter of the new China. What does it mean for the daughter of the new China to be silent or silenced? Why is she the one who cannot speak?

4. Yongqing is the son of Fugui and Jaizhen. Sons have long been preferred in Chinese society. He is pampered, yet nevertheless, he dies young. It is an old friend, who is now a communist party leader, who has accidentally killed the boy. What might the significance of that death?

5. Wan Er'xi is the husband of Fengxia. Why is he considered a suitable husband for Fengxia?

6. Long'er represents the old culture. He has won the house from Fugui. What happens to him and what might it mean?

7. The shadow puppet show is a recurring motif in the film. Keep track of the times the shadow puppets appear or are referred to in the film.

8. Social structures: Make note of the types of community interaction and traditions in the film. Observe the roles of grandparents, parents, and children.

grandparents	parents	children

9. Make note of the number of different campaigns of conflicts in the film. (Historical Context/Circumstances)

Before Civil War / Imperial Period	Civil War	Great Leap Forward	The Cultural Revolution