The Patriot

Movie Questions ( must be hand written )

1. In the opening scene, how does the movie portray education in the southern colonies?
2. What is the setting of the film?
3. What reservations do the colonists hold in regards to the French and Indian war?
4. What are the arguments being made about North Carolina going to war?
   1. Pro-
   2. Con-
5. What does Benjamin Martin mean by “this war will not be fought on the frontier but amongst us?”
6. What is significant about the death of Thomas?
7. What does Benjamin Martin say about the ways of “gentleman” warfare?
8. What is the roll of the militia?
9. Why did the General Cornwallis feel it was important to fight a gentlemen’s war and treat the colonists with respect?
10. What is the significance of the discussion between Gabriel and the former slave?
11. What does “fixing the flag” say about the character of Gabriel?
12. What does General Cornwallis say about the militia targeting officers?
13. How does the video depict the loyalist?
14. How does the movie depict the tactics used by the Tavington and the British?
15. How did General Cornwallis surrender?
16. Why did the Frenchmen name his son Gabriel?

**History or Hollywood**

*For many Americans, Hollywood serves as the producer of history. The film industry has long offered its version of historic events, with varying results. Some of Hollywood's attempts at historical analysis have faired better than others; some have been complete fabrications. Today, Hollywood is still offering the American public its interpretations of history.*

All must be hand written

**Conceptual Questions:**

1. Hollywood has a long history of bringing American wars to the big screen. Why does the drama of war make such popular topics for films?

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1. Discuss the role of Hollywood in teaching, or "misteaching" American history.

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1. Most films and novels about historical events use poetic license. What do you think a poetic license is?

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1. When we think of the American Revolution, we tend to think of the northern campaign. But the war was fought in some southern areas as well. What was the strategic value of the southern campaign (as depicted in this film)? Why does the northern campaign dominate the history books?

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1. There were almost as many loyalists as there were patriots during the American Revolution. Who were loyalists? How did they differ from patriots? What happened to them after the war?

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1. Technology has changed the ways in which wars are fought. (using this film as a reference) Discuss how wars were fought in the 18th century and compare them with wars of the 20th century.

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1. Both members of the militia and the Continental Army fought in the Revolutionary War. Compare and contrast the two different groups of fighters.

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1. The lead character of The Patriot is a composite of different people. What is a composite? Why do you think the producers choose to model their leading character after more than one person?

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1. Discuss the problems with the film's portrayal of the lives of African Americans during the Revolutionary era.

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