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Film Title: _____

Group # or name _____ date _____

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Film Review Instructions

Revised 9/9/2020

I. What themes of the course does this film illuminate?

1. Name them, 2. Explain how the film deals with them, and 3. Describe what insight into this history the film gave you. (Think as you do this – why did the professor assign this film as

(Work product for this section – prose, short paragraph)

II. Break down historical analytical categories that the film deals with and illuminates

What is the film's focus? How well did it capture the issues in these categories?

Categories to include: Social, Political, Economic, Ideological.

Other things to note in your descriptions: race, class, gender, religion, emotional connection

(Work product for this section – prose, short answer/short paragraph for each category)

III. “Two truths and a lie”: Factual Scale vs. Literary device

1. Identify in bullet points truths/facts that are covered. 2. Identify events or facts that the filmmaker took some license with to make art that people can connect with.

This section requires some research. You must research the event/time period the film is based on, the characters and turning points of the storyline, and the context of the real event.

Please cite the sources you looked at to understand and break down the historicity of the film. (Citations should be included at the end of your review and should include Author's name, Title of article, URL, and date that you accessed the website.)

(How to get started here: You do this all the time...you watch something and wonder, “Is this true?” “Did it really happen? What are they leaving out? Or “I want to know more” and you Google it. Do the same here and also use the texts assigned in the class by going to the index in the back of the book, or use the syllabus to go to the reading assigned on that topic.)

(Work Product for this section – bullet pointed lists.)

IV. Review and rate the film

Write a short review of the film and its strengths and weaknesses in representing a historical time period and historical events. You must write a synopsis of the film's context and the real event and then compare the two by making an accuracy argument.

(Work product for this section – This is the most formal piece of writing for the assignment. Write a cohesive, analytical, compelling Review of the film. Write as if it were for publication. Maximum of 300 words.)

Film Title: _____

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Film Review and Analysis Form

I. What themes of the course does this film illuminate?

1. Name them, 2. Explain how the film deals with them, and 3. Describe what insight into this history the film gave you. (Think as you do this – why did the professor assign this film?)

(Work product for this section –prose, short paragraph)

The film mainly covers three themes: War, Resistance, and brutality.

According to my understanding, war is the central theme of the film "a bridge too far". It details the failed invasion of the Netherlands troops during the second world war. The operation is given the name "operation market garden" aimed at defeating the Nazis by the end of 1944. Airborne forces whose aim was to parachute into the enemy territory and seize or secure bridges in the border of Netherlands are seen laying off their strategies. . Around fifteen thousand Britain soldiers and thousands of German soldiers died in Operation Market Garden, which ended in the defeat of the battle of Arnhem prolonging the second World war in Europe until May 1945 when liberation came.

Resistance is yet another dominant theme in the film. Things did not go quite as planned or as Field Marshal Montgomery hoped. British XXX corps were not able to move as quickly as it needed for the German forces were seen resisting the attack. They blew up a bridge at Son, which delayed the advancing troops. The allies also experienced stiffer resistance than expected. According to the film, resistance at Eindhoven, Son, and Nijmegen slowed down the advance of XXX troops.

Lastly, is the brutality theme that is always evident wherever war is present? Many of the paratroopers were ordered to seize bridges down and up from the German-Dutch border, but after three days of initial success and heavy battle, they failed to take control of Arnhem's city. According to the Dutch defense minister Bijleveld Ank who spoke at battles' commemoration, he said that the war was brutal, uncompromising, and vicious.

I'm a massive fan of the film "A bridge too far". I enjoy movies about world war II, and this is among my all-time favorites. The film is loaded with good actors, but many valuable lessons that leaders of the military can learn from the hit movie. Some insights from the movie are; soldiers should always test their equipment right before they use them. Throughout the film, the British soldiers experienced communication problems. The Radio did not work, and they could not communicate effectively with each other for the better part of the battle. The Signal Officer knew a problem would result from the equipment, but he did not want to rock speak up and get in trouble.

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II. Break down historical **analytical categories** that the film covers as subject matter?

What is the film's focus? How well did it capture the issues in these categories? How does the film bring light to historical themes and movements/events/ conflicts/change?

Categories to include: Social, Political, Economic, Ideological.

Other things to note in your descriptions: race, class, gender, religion,

(Work product for this section – prose, short answer/short paragraph for each category)

Theme: Social Issues

A bridge too far is an excellent WORLD WAR II film about real-life events. It is an epic overlong war with a great star cast, a plot about a military invasion in WW II shunning social evils like massive killings of people by the British troops. Weaving a masterful tale of civilian struggle, epic battles, and fateful military decisions at high command, the film presents the definitive story of the doomed allied attempt to end the second world war in a bold stroke with the operation's launch market garden. Goldman says the film "A Bridge Too Far" was his only chance to show that 'war sucks' conceding that "the movie is depressing. The good guys did not win.

Theme: Politics and Political ideology

World War II films are known to despise political issues. The movie "A bridge too far is based on ideological and political differences between British XXX corps and German forces in Montgomery's plan to strategically capture a series of essential bridges over the Rhine in the Netherlands. Had the plan succeeded, perhaps it would have been the Americans, not the soviets, that captured Berlin and put the nail in the Third Reich coffin. In consideration, I would say it was a terrible plan with far too many variables. Monty was so desperate to compete with Patton that he ignored intelligence and pushed the project through against many senior officers' advice.

Theme: Economics and Class

Released in 1977, the very last time Britain struggled to gain back from an international crisis of its own social and economic problems, "A Bridge Too Far" showed not a victory but rather the worst- Allied defeat during the world war II.

Other themes to highlight the film

Instead of the real long battle and few artillery wars between the German and American troops, the movie focuses on other themes like human cost and heroism in gaining a Bridge-Head across the Rhine bridge before the Britains' final advance into Germany.

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III. "Two truths and a lie": Factual Scale vs. Literary device

Identify in bullet points truths/facts that are covered. 2. Identify events or facts that the filmmaker took some license with to make art that people can connect with.

This section requires research. This section requires some research. You must research the event/time period the film is based on, the characters and turning points of the storyline, and the context of the real event. Please cite the sources you looked at to understand and break down the historicity of the film.

(Work Product for this section – bullet pointed lists Citations should be included at the end of your review and should include Author's name, Title of article, URL, and date that you accessed the website.)

- All characters in the movie are based upon historical figures. Gene Hackman, Major general Urquhart, acted as General Sosabowski Ryan O. Neill played the character of General James while Bogarde Dirk took the part of Lt Gen. The characters were the leading players in operation. The commanders of the German troops are all based on those players who took part in the fighting. Generally, the movie is quite faithful in history concerning the true personality of those involved.
- "A bridge too far" Ryan's title for the Book upon which, the film was based. The expression "a bridge too far" truly accounts for the reason for the failure of the Britain forces. In the film, Browning utters the phrase. This is very true, and indeed he uttered it. As a matter of fact, Browning used the phrase in a conversation with Montgomery right before the beginning of the operation.
- The movie is accurate and provides a correct account of "Operation Market Garden", the wars, and a list of the causes of Allied movement failure. The film portrayal of conflicts is very accurate and reveals the intensity of the fighting.
- The film was much obligated to displaying the true campaign, and generally, it illustrates how the war rolled out. It also accurately displays the Dutch resistance's contributions to the Allied causes. In one scene, fighters of the Dutch resistance are seen using lifeless bodies as barricades, and this did occur. In yet another stage in the film, German soldiers are displayed as detonating bombs fixed to a bridge. This is precisely what happened.

(Dailyhistory.org, How historically correct is the Film 'A bridge too far'?

<https://dailyhistory.org/DailyHistory.org>About>, 21 August 2019)

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IV. Review and rate the film

Write a short review of the film and what its strengths and weaknesses are in representing a historical time period and historical events. You must write a synopsis of the context of the film AND the real event and then compare the two by making an accuracy argument.

(Work product for this section – This is the most formal piece of writing for the assignment. Write a cohesive, analytical, compelling Review of the film. Write as if it were for publication. Maximum of 300 words)

Review:

The movie "a bridge too far" is a story of "Operation Market Garden". It was a try by the Allies troops to take control of a few critical bridges in the Netherlands located over the Rhine in the year 1944. They hoped they would have Britain take control of these crossing points and then later attack Germany from the North. They planned to make use of airborne forces to control the bridges before German troops could react. The lightly armed Paratroopers would soon be joined by Armored divisions. However, events did not roll out as planned, and the German soldiers were able to hold back attacks from the Allies and later won the battle over the paratroopers at Arnhem, which was the offensive's key objective. Arnhem was the place referred to as the Bridge too far. Operation Market Garden was considered a failure and led to the death of many soldiers and the paratroopers.

The 1977 movie, directed by Attenborough Richard, a retired movie star, had an enormous budget and was visually spectacular. This film "a bridge too far" was based upon Cornelius Ryan's Non-fiction book under a similar title. The movie is a fictionalized version of the real events during the last few months of WW II when the ninth armored division got to Remagen and consequently took control of the Intact Bridge of Ludendorff. The battle and few artillery duels between the German and American soldiers were witnessed during the period.

In comparing the movie and the real fallout of events, there was one apparent omission of a character from the film, and was non-other than Marshal Montgomery Bernard. Montgomery was considered force behind the attack, and without Montgomery, it is quite unlikely that the operation would have continued, yet the movie omitted him.

The film also does not include the construction of Pontoon and Bailey bridges across the Rhine, following the bridge's capture. Instead of focusing on the real long battle between German and American soldiers, the movie puts much of its focus on the human costs and heroism in gaining access to the bridges.

Rating (Scale out of 10, with 10 being Excellent) Rate film as a representation of a historical moment _____

Rate film as to how much you enjoyed it _____

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ORIGINALITY REPORT

34%

SIMILARITY INDEX

0%

INTERNET SOURCES

0%

PUBLICATIONS

34%

STUDENT PAPERS

PRIMARY SOURCES

1

Submitted to Buffalo State College

Student Paper

34%

Exclude quotes On

Exclude bibliography On

Exclude matches Off