

The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brien

Summer Reading Assignment

Name _____

Mr. Peightal's English 12 Honors

Jimmy Cross Bob "Rat" Kiley Kiowa Mitchell Sanders Norman Bowker Henry Dobbins

Ted Lavender Curt Lemon Azer Bobby Jorgenson Martha

I. Essay: 1. Respond to the two questions below. Use as much of the details from the book as you can. Please use the back of the paper if needed. More is better in an assignment like this. Effort is rewarded.

"They carried all the emotional baggage of men who might die. Grief, terror, love, longing..."

What was some of the other emotional baggage they carried?

Pick a character and discuss his story. What was memorable about him? How did the author characterize him?

II. Write 6 journal-type entries about the book. Use a reader-response journal where you discuss the novel and your reaction to it. You are of the age where you could be involved in going off to war. Include your thoughts about that and any first hand stories you may have about people you know who have been in a war. ***The journals should be at least 150 words per journal.***

III. Write another long journal entry comparing this war to any other war in history. Are the circumstances the same? What was it like to re-enter society? Is the same for every war? Is war the best solution to solve mankind's problems? These are just some prompts. Feel free to talk about other issues you feel strongly about.