**NAPOLEON**

**Look up the word destiny. Define it in your own words in your notes.**

**How does each of the following represent a different view of destiny?**

**Poem 1**

The longest journey

Is the journey inwards

Of him who has chosen his destiny

*Dag Hammarskjold*

**Poem 2**

Sow a habit, and you reap a character.

Sow a character, and you reap a destiny.

*Anonymous*

**Poem 3**

Tis all a checkerboard of nights and days

Where destiny with men for pieces plays

*Edward Fitzgerald*

**Questions:**

1. Napoleon so hated having his native country conquered by the French, yet in the name of France he went on to be the greatest conqueror of other European countries the world had ever seen. How do you explain this paradox?
2. Do you think Napoleon's family did the right thing by deserting Corsica for France?

**Segment 2: The family's move to France through Napoleon's training at the Ecole Militaire (from approximately 13 to 20 minutes into the film. This segment begins with the image of trees in winter).**

**Questions:**

1. Napoleon is sent off to school at Brienne at the age of 9. It was five years before he saw his parents again. How would he have felt in this situation? How do you think it might have affected Napoleon's character and personality?
2. What about Napoleon's experiences at this time, as well as his reading and education, might have made him sympathetic to the ideals of the Revolution?

**Segment 3: The outbreak of the Revolution, Napoleon's return to Corsica, exile and return to France, the Battle of Toulon, promotion to full General (from approximately 20 minutes to 38 minutes into the film. This segment begins with fighting scenes and booming cannon).**

**Questions:**

**Watch Segment 3 with this overriding question in mind: Does Napoleon support the ideals of the French Revolution or is he merely an opportunist, using events to further his own career?**

1. Why does the Battle of Toulon bring Napoleon to the attention of the French public for the first time?
2. When Napoleon fires cannon into a mob that wishes to restore the monarchy in Paris, were his actions justified or not? What do they tell us about Napoleon?

**Segment 4: Napoleon falls in love with Josephine (from approximately 38 minutes to 44 minutes into the video. This segment begins with gentle scenes of Paris, a portrait of Napoleon and harp music).**

**Questions:**

1. What Napoleon gains through an alliance with Josephine.
2. What Josephine gains through an alliance with Napoleon.

**Segment 5: Napoleon wins major battles against Austria and her ally, ending with the crossing of Lodi Bridge (from 44 minutes into the film until the end. This segment begins with images of the mountains).**

**Questions:**

1. What are some of the military strategies for which Napoleon would become famous? In what ways do Napoleon's tactics mark the end of the rules of warfare as played by the Ancien Regime, and usher in modern warfare?
2. What are some of the ways that Napoleon inspires loyalty in his troops? What makes him a charismatic general?