**O Brother, Where Art Thou? Worksheet**

Name:

The purpose of this worksheet is to help you prepare for the short analysis essay of the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* Complete each question completely and turn-in at the end of the film.

1. What are the names of the three main characters of the film?

2. What is the three characters’ quest and how does the Blind Seer (the old black man on the railroad cart) establish this quest? Outline the major points of the Seer’s prediction.

3. What is Everett’s odd obsession? What is his main character flaw (different, but perhaps related to his obsession)?

4. Why, according to himself, does Tommy play guitar so well?

5. What is the setting for the film (time and place)? What are some elements of the film that establish this setting (think of physical settings of scenes, costuming, language, lighting, and story-line).

6. Why is Wash’s Boy shooting at people? How is this both a comedic element and part of the setting?

7. How are Pappy O’Daniel and his staff a comedic element and how does their subplot interact with the overall plot of the three main characters?

8. Sheriff Cooley is chasing the Soggy Bottom Boys, but what is the tie-in with Tommy that makes the Sheriff a much more complex character? How is this symbolized whenever we see the Sheriff?

9. How would a Psychiatrist today probably diagnose “Baby Face” George Nelson? What does he give the Soggy Bottom Boys that helps them along on their quest?

10. Why does Delmar belief that Pete has been turned into a “horny toad?” Aside from the obvious reason that it is hard to believe that a man has been turned into a toad, anything you see in the film that is problematic with Delmar’s insistence that he has caught Pete and that Pete is a toad?
11. How does Big Dan Teague operate as a barrier for the Boys? How is this conflict finally resolved?

12. How are camera angles and movement used to make Big Dan appear much larger than the other characters?

13. How is music used thematically throughout the film? In other words, how is music used to help with setting, but also to help set mood and to even tie-in with some specific characters?

14. Why does Homer Stokes mistakenly believe that “The color guard is colored” at the KKK rally?

15. What do the others realize is Everett’s real quest? How does this play into the prophecy of the Seer? Why is time such an issue for this quest?

16. What elements come together that cause the tides to turn for almost every character in the story during Homer Stokes’ fundraising rally? How is each character affected?

17. What is the conflict between Everett and Penny? How does Penny explain this to everyone, including the Little Wharvey Gals? Is the conflict resolved at the end of the film?

18. When and where do you see the elements of the Seer’s prophecy come true? In what ways has it come true for all three men?