Mississippi Burning Viewing Questions

Name: _______________                  Total: __________ /25

1. How do the opening images set the tone for this film? (2 marks)
   - colored / white fountains: segregation
   - building burning
   - music: calm, colored person singing

2. What kind of building is burning? (1 mark)
   - church / school

3. How do we know that the men in the car will not be all right despite the driver's assurance? (1 mark)
   - one is black, other Jewish
   - called "nigger lover"

4. What year does this take place in? (1 mark)
   - 1964

5. What organization does Mr. Ward and Mr. Anderson belong to? (1 mark)
   - FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation)

6. What town/county is this film set in? (1 mark)
   - Jessup County, Mississippi, USA
7. Who were the three men seen in the beginning of the film? (1 mark)

Civil Rights Workers

8. What is the result of Mr. Ward talking to the African American at the Diner? (What happens in the diner and what does this tell us about the times?) (2 marks)

- everyone stops and looks
- man has "nothing to say" to Mr. Ward, later gets robbed at home
- black + white still segregated, don't get along, no trust

9. Why do Mr. Ward and Mr. Anderson disagree on the calling in of more FBI agents? (1 mark)

- more help, just wants to solve the murder
- cause more trouble "start a war" (KKK will rebel)
- townspeople say things were fine until they came along and took things up

10. What is the hand signal for the KKK? (1 mark)

- like Hitler's salute

11. Do you think Mrs. Pell is telling the truth about her husband's whereabout's on June 21st? Explain. (2 marks)

No ... she's covering for him
- he will beat her so she is scared of him

12. What do you think Mrs. Pell and Mr. Anderson are talking about in the beauty shop? (1 mark)

- she admits she wasn't with her husband that night
- like she claimed. (his alibi)
13. The men who throw the bomb that destroys a home are caught. When they are tried, what is the outcome? (Be specific). (1 mark)

- 5 years in prison (light sentence because it was provoked by circumstances) suspended?

14. What kind of rally do the town's people say this is? What kind of rally is it really? (2 marks)

- A "political meeting" (for white Christianity)
- Really more like a KKK meeting without the costumes

15. The mayor's information reveals that there were 3 cars, and 7 men involved in the murder of the boys. Who were the shooters? Whose idea was this? (Sheriff) (4 marks)

Who else knew? (Mayor)

Bell, Leaker, Sheriff, Shubey, W. Cook

C. Townley, Frank, Floyd

16. As you watch the FBI get closer and closer to proving the guilt of those responsible, what do you think the FBI's plan is? (1 mark)

To get those who are guilty even if they have to do it Mr. Anderson's way.

17. One man commits suicide, who is he and why does he do it? (2 marks)

Mayor

It was guilty of standing aside and not doing anything