***Mussolini: Italy’s Nightmare* Viewing Guide**

1. Who did Benito Mussolini believe himself to be the modern day version of?

2. What were the politics of Mussolini’s dad? How, in turn did Benito Mussolini get his name? Why is all this ironic given Mussolini’s later politics?

3. Name three things during Mussolini’s childhood/early adulthood that foreshadowed his later years as a Fascist dictator.

4. How did Mussolini’s wife feel about his constant activity in politics? Why was this simply another bonus to this marriage in the eyes of Benito?

5. How did Mussolini use the media to control the masses when he was rising to power?

6. What defining piece of clothing did Mussolini’s organized thugs who bullied people wear? Now, using common sense, what did they become known as?

7. What new party did Mussolini found that took control of the government in 1922? What is the more common term for their type of politics?

8. How did Mussolini take power? What was weird about it? Be specific.

9. What did Mussolini do with the king and Parliament after he came to power?

10. What caused the public to turn against Mussolini for the first time? (It did not last that long.) Within the next year, what did Mussolini do to all the political parties in Italy? What did that mean the Italian citizens had to do?

11. What did Mussolini do to win the approval of the Catholic Church?

12. Name two of Mussolini’s famous supporters.

13. What was the “hallmark” of Il Duce’s regime? How did he control the presses while in power?

14. What did Hitler ask Mussolini for as a young man? How did Il Duce respond? How did Mussolini feel about Hitler?

15. What ages did Mussolini order mandatory military instruction for all Italian males?

16. What African country did Mussolini invade in an attempt to bring Italy glory and increase its empire? Describe some of the brutalities committed? About how many Ethiopians died? What did it do to Italy financially?

17. Describe the relation between Hitler and Mussolini by 1937.

18. How did Mussolini turn on Italian Jews in 1938? What was unique about this turn?

19. How did Italians feel about World War II?

20. What did Mussolini sign with Hitler in mid-1939? What did it say?