

Name _____

Period _____

***White Light, Black Rain:
The Destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki***

Part I- INTRODUCTION Section Start to 4.51

1. What is significant about this quote? “75% of the population of Japan was born after 1945” What does this tell you about the population of Japan today and in the future?
2. Why do you think the teenagers don’t know what happened on August 6th, 1945?
3. Why do you think the filmmaker wanted to begin the film in this way?

Part II- THE SURVIVORS Section 4.51 to 17.37

1. What messages were being sent to the people of the United States about the Japanese?
2. What messages were being sent to the people of Japan about the war?
3. What affect did these messages have on the people of each country and how did they affect their outlook on the war?
4. Do you think the governments misled the people of Japan and the United States? If so, how and why?

Part III- THE BOMB Section 17.37 to 45.35

1. How did the American men feel about the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki?
2. When asked about his role in the bombing, one man said:
“People say ‘what’d you do in those early days?’ and my answer was ‘whatever I was told to do’...I guess I wasn’t learned enough or sophisticated enough to appreciate what it meant in the long run for the future of the world.” Write your thoughts in response to this statement.
3. Another man said *"We have opened Pandora's box, and the genie can't be stuffed back in the bottle."* What did he mean by this?

Part IV- AFTERMATH Section 45.35 to Finish

1. Describe all of the ways in which this event affected the survivors of the bombings.

2. How were the survivors treated after the bombing?

3. Why do you think the survivors were treated the way they were?

4. Why is it important to document the stories of these survivors?

5. Do you think that the dropping of the bombs was a good idea? Why or why not

6. How is the use of nuclear weapons different from other types of warfare?

7. Write your thoughts in response to the following fact from the film:

There are now enough nuclear weapons in the world to equal 400,000 Hiroshimas