

Name: _____ Date: _____

Recall the ideas presented in the essay. Then answer each question in one or two sentences.

1. What, according to Thoreau, is the best government?

2. What does Thoreau believe is preferable to the majority deciding what is right and wrong?

3. Why does Thoreau compare soldiers with wood, earth, and stones?

4. How, according to Thoreau, could people end slavery in America?

5. Why did Thoreau come to the conclusion that the State was "half-witted" when it imprisoned him?

Answer one of the following questions based on your understanding of "Civil Disobedience." Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper. (20 points)

6. Thoreau's "Civil Disobedience" has influenced generations of people—from Mohandas Gandhi to Martin Luther King, Jr., to the protesters of the Vietnam War. What ideas from this essay do you think would be most useful and effective in protesting a war?

7. In his book *On the Mexican War*, John Jordan Crittenden, a 19th-century senator from Kentucky, wrote, "I hope to find my country in the right; however, I will stand by her, right or wrong." Briefly summarize how you think Thoreau might have responded to Crittenden's statement.