

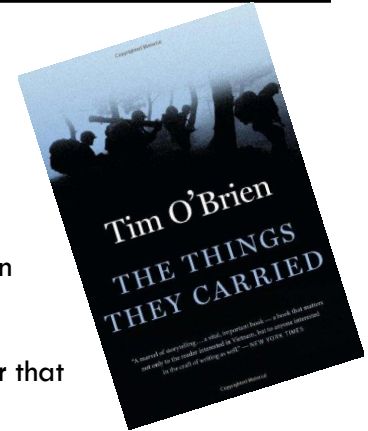
The Things They Carried

by Tim O'Brien

Pre-Reading: O'Brien and Vietnam (35 points)

Paste information and/or images after each task.

1. Start out by finding an image of the author **Tim O'Brien** and include it below (1 point)
2. Tim O'Brien grew up in **Worthington, Minnesota**. Find Worthington on a map of Minnesota and include the image below. (1 point)
3. List five significant facts about **Tim O'Brien's life or writing career** that seem to relate to this novel. (5 points)
4. *The Things They Carried* has won many prestigious **literary awards**. Research and list at least three awards the book has received. (3 points)
5. The novel *The Things They Carried* is written in a **rather unique organizational style**. Research the unique organization of this novel and provide two facts that make this novel unique in its content and/or organization. (2 points)
6. Tim O'Brien is considered a **contemporary author**. (Also, it may be said that he is YOUR contemporary). What does that mean? Find out and define it below in your own words. (1 point)
7. The 1960s were turbulent years filled with many protests over the Vietnam War. Include one image of a **war protest** below. The author, Tim O'Brien took a minor role in protesting against involvement in Vietnam prior to being drafted to serve in the war. (1 point)
8. O'Brien was drafted into the United States Army in 1968 and served from 1968-1970 as an infantryman in Vietnam. Do a google image search for a **draft notice** from the Vietnam War. Include this image below. (1 point)
9. Leading up to the Vietnam War, tensions between the United States and North Vietnam escalated in what was called the **Gulf of Tonkin Incident** (also called the **USS Maddux Incident**). Briefly explain this incident. Include an image that relates to the incident. (2 points)
10. **The Geneva Accords** were important in the history of conflict in the Vietnam region. Briefly explain what agreements came out of these meetings. Also, include a photo of the Geneva Accords. (2 points)
11. O'Brien served as a part of **Alpha Company, the Fifth Battalion of the 46th Infantry, 198th Infantry Brigade**. Find a photo of Alpha Company (of Vietnam) and include it below. O'Brien has dedicated *The Things They Carried* to these men. (1 point)
12. **Ho Chi Minh** was a controversial political leader. What does he have to do with the Vietnam War? Include an image of Ho Chi Minh below. (2 points)
13. O'Brien served as an infantryman in the **Quang Ngai Province** of Vietnam. Show this province on a map you include below. Research why this was considered the most **dangerous assignment** for an infantryman. Explain below: (2 points)



14. American history is full of shameful events that we often would like to forget. One of the most horrific events of Vietnam happened in the Quang Ngai Province shortly before O'Brien served there. Research the **My Lai Massacre** and briefly explain what happened. How did this massacre affect the area where O'Brien was assigned to serve? Although there are photos of the aftermath of this massacre, they are disturbing and we will not include them in this assignment, but you are welcomed to view them online: warning graphic content! (2 points)
15. *The Things They Carried* includes a chapter entitled "Sweetheart of Song Tra Bong". What is the **Song Tra Bong**? Explain. Include an image or map that relates. (2 points)
16. The chapter "**The Sweetheart of Song Tra Bong**" was expanded into a movie in the late '90s. What was the name of the movie? Who was the leading actor or actress? Include an image that relates to the movie in some way (3 points)
17. Another river important to the novel is Minnesota's **Rainy River**. Find out where the Rainy River is located and include a map below. Include an image of the Rainy River as well. Predict why this river may be significant in the novel. (3 points)