Cinderella Man Movie Questions

1. Briefly describe the following aspects of Jim Braddock’s life in the beginning of the film BEFORE the Great Depression:

2. What type of job does Braddock work during the Great Depression? What prevents him from working this job on a consistent basis?

3. THROUGHOUT THE FILM, Braddock and his family are shown walking the streets of New York and during these scenes we see examples of how people reacted and survived the Great Depression. An example of this is when Braddock walks to Madison Square Garden and a mother is shown urging her sons to get out of the car and collect pieces of wood. List and describe 2 examples from the movie.

4. After working the docks, Jim Braddock and his co-worker Mike Wilson discuss the situation of the Great Depression. How do BOTH Braddock and Wilson view the situation?

5. Why does Mae send the kids to live with other family members?

6. Why does Braddock become upset when he finds out his wife sent the kids away to her family? What does he do to get his kids back?

7. What happens when Jim goes to the relief office for money? Where does he go for additional money to get the heat back on?

8. Why does Braddock have such a strong reputation with the crowd and people of New York when he returns to boxing after his hand injury?

9. When Braddock’s trainer Joe Gibbs offers Jim another fight after winning the first, how does Jim’s wife Mae react and why does she react that way?

10. When Mae confronts Joe at his house what does she find out? When Joe steps out of the room, what does Joe’s wife say to Mae that relates to how women felt during the Great Depression?

11. What did Braddock use as motivation to help win his boxing matches throughout the film?

12. Explain what “Hooverville” was and describe how it is displayed in the movie?

13. During the press conference for the championship bout, what does Braddock say he is fighting for this time round and what do you think it means?

14. Where does Mae go before Braddock’s championship fight? What does she realize while she is there?

15. What is the final result of the championship bout between Jim Braddock and Max Baer?

16. Why was the title, “Cinderella Man” chosen for the movie?

17. What did you learn from the movie about the depression that surprised you the most? Why?

18. Was the movie an accurate reflection of the Great Depression? Why or why not?