Iron Jawed Angels

*Directions: After watching the film, use your notes to answer the following questions. Attach your daily notes to the assignment.* ***50 points***

1. Where did the struggle for women’s suffrage stand as of 1912, when the film opens?
2. Where did Alice Paul and Lucy Burns get their inspiration? What tactics did British suffragists employ? How does Carrie Catt refer to the British activists?
3. Explain the strategic differences over how to win the vote for women. When and why did Paul and Burns break from NAWSA and form the Congressional Union? What was their goal? When did the Congressional Union become the National Woman’s Party?
4. What role did African-American women play in the struggle for universal suffrage? What statement does Ida Wells-Barnett make to Alice Paul? How does Paul respond? What stand did Wells-Barnett take at the 1913 suffrage parade?
5. How was the death of Inez Milholland a turning point in the crusade for universal suffrage?
6. What was the reaction of the press, the White House, Carrie Chapman Catt and NAWSA to the NWP’s decision to picket the White House? How did the declaration of war in 1917 affect suffragists on the picket line?
7. Describe the arrests and imprisonment in Occoquan. How did the women come to be called “Iron Jawed Angels”?
8. How did the jailed suffragists protest? With what results? Describe Alice Paul’s interview with the prison psychiatrist and his report to the White House.
9. What does it mean to be a political prisoner as opposed to a prisoner jailed for a criminal offense? Were the suffragists political prisoners? Explain
10. Discuss Woodrow Wilson’s stance on suffrage.
    1. Describe the interactions between Wilson and the suffragists.
    2. How and why did Wilson’s position on votes for women evolve?
    3. What finally changed Wilson’s mind? According to Wilson, in what ways was suffrage for women a war measure?
11. What is the significance of the fictionalized story of Emily Leighton and her Senator husband?
12. Would you characterize Alice Paul and Lucy Burns as heroes? As patriots? What contributions did each make to the suffrage movement *and* to American democracy?

*QUOTES FOR ANALYSIS (Discuss the following quotations. Explain each statement and place it in context)*

1. Ruza Wenclawska: “A vote is a fire escape.”
2. Woodrow Wilson: “We shall fight for the things which we have always carried nearest to our hearts, for democracy, for the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own governments.”
3. Alice Paul: “Look into your own heart, I swear to you, mine’s no different.You want a voice in the government under which you live? So do I.”