PART I: IDENTIFICATIONS

TWO of THESE will be selected for you to answer. Two points each.

Answers should identify the person, group, place, concept, theory, event, or item in one or two paragraphs. Answers should include a description as well as an assessment of the significance of the term to this class. In other words, why are we studying it? How is it relevant to the history of Vietnam and the French and American wars? (NOTE: Significance MUST be included in order to receive full credit.) When formulating your answers think in terms of what, who, why, where, when, and how.

Khmer Rouge
Christmas Bombing
Re-education Camps
Vietnamization
Pentagon Papers

Paris Peace Agreement
My Lai Massacre
Nguyen Van Thieu
Agent Orange
In Retrospect

PART II: ESSAY QUESTION

ONE of THESE will be selected for you to answer. Six points.

These questions are provided in advance so you can prepare yourself as thoroughly as possible to write coherent and detailed essays. The best essays will integrate substantial material from the lectures and the readings and demonstrate your ability to explain the important processes at work. Think in terms of concepts, patterns of behavior, divergent worldviews and perspectives, and the ways that particular historical experiences can help you demonstrate that you understand “what happened.” Be sure to cite relevant facts from the readings (including primary documents we have studied) and/or lectures to support your argument. In other words, demonstrate the validity of your point of view; do not merely assert it.

1. Military dissent was widespread during the Vietnam war. Drawing on the memoir of W. D. Ehrhart, explain why large numbers of Americans who served in Vietnam came to oppose the war they were sent to fight. In what ways was this opposition expressed?

2. Jerry Lembcke identifies the “spitting image” as one of the most notable American legacies of the Vietnam war. What is the “spitting image,” how valid is it as an historical reality, and why, according to Lembcke, is it so widespread in American popular consciousness?

3. How did American actions in Southeast Asia contribute to what happened in Cambodia between 1975 and 1979? How did U.S. policy vis-à-vis Vietnam affect the Khmer Rouge insurgency after 1979?