APUSH

Mr. Bedar

**Thomas Jefferson and the Character Issue**

*Directions: Please type your answers on a separate sheet of paper in preparation for discussion*

1. How is Jefferson remembered by both Americans and historians, and how has this view of Jefferson recently changed?

2. How has people’s knowledge of Jefferson’s supposed relationship with Sally Hemings changed how he is viewed?

3. What is presentism and what problems does it present?

4. According to the author, what difficulty comes with judging important historical leaders? How do you think they should be judged?

5. What is the author trying to say about Jefferson when writes about his attraction to inventions and gadgets, and how he is praised for his talents?

6. What were Jefferson’s views on liberty and individual freedom, and are these views contradicted by the fact that he was a slave-owner?

7. How does framing things in a historical context change people’s views on Jefferson’s slaveholding?

8. What reasons did Jefferson give for the impossibility of racially integrating society?

9. What is the significance of the un-ratified (deleted) passage on page 72?

10. What is the significance of Lincoln’s address at Gettysburg and how does it relate to Jefferson?

11. Why is Jefferson’s declaration “remarkable?”