Directions: Answer the following questions as you watch the movie. Please note that the questions are not in order. Answers missed should be dealt with in the time after the film. Consider speaking to a peer in class to ensure that all the questions are answered.

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

   - Boxing Career/ Reputation:

   - Housing Neighborhood:

   - Clothing:

   - Income:

   - Relationship with Family:

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

3. 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?
4. 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?

5. 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?

6. 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?

7. 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?

8. What did Braddock use as motivation to help win his boxing matches throughout the film?
Cinderella Man — Viewing guide questions
Poverty in America

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

10. 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?

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

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

13. What issues do people today deal with that are similar to those of the Braddock family? How are today’s issues different? What sorts of new issues will our children face?
14. Members of Max Baer's family have criticized the portrayal of Max Baer in this film for not being accurate. Max Baer was personally devastated by the in-ring death of one of his opponents and suffered nightmares about it for decades. How do you feel about the way the filmmakers changed the character? Is this ethical? Why or why not?

15. The Great Depression affected everyone to some degree. How were the people in the movie affected? How were the different socio-economic classes affected?

16. Doing what is right is sometimes difficult. How difficult was it for Braddock to pay off his debt to the government at a time when no one was giving back?

17. The scene where Braddock's son explains why he stole is extremely powerful. Would you steal if your family hadn't eaten in a week, or if your family's ability to stay together depended on it? How do you feel about the ethics of this decision?