# Forrest Gump

## Tasks for the Film

The pupils watch the movie in common.

1. Make a historical timeline. Choose a highlight, go into details and explain.
2. Draw a world map and show how far Forrest Gump gets around.
3. Draw a map of the United States and mark how far Forrest Gump runs. Explain why he runs. Work out how far he runs. What is his average speed? How far does he run each day? Estimate if it is possible.
4. In the film Forrest Gump takes part in the Vietnam War. Examine the following:
   - How many American soldiers were in Vietnam during the years 1965 – 1974?
   - How many American soldiers were killed each year? And in total?
   - Work out the number of killed American soldiers in percent.
   - Work out the number of killed American soldiers, if the war had continued until 2005.
   - Where can you see the monument to the casualties in Vietnam? Describe it.
5. Give examples from the film where the instructor has used computer animation.
6. Which chemical weapons were used during the Vietnam War? Explain how they worked.
7. Describe the country Vietnam and its people. Draw a map of the country and put names on it.
8. Find information about AIDS and give an account of the disease and its development:
9. Describe the development of IT with the main stress on the Macintosh Company.
10. Choose movie scenes, turn down the sound and find new background music. Give reasons for
your choice.

11. Create a rap about scenes selected from the film.

12. Which music was topical during the period that the film covers? Give examples. Explain the music. Tell about the musicians.

13. Find symbols in the film and give explanations about them.

14. Write an article about Forrest Gump in connection with one of the scenes where he is decorated.

15. Write extracts from Forrest Gump’s diary over a selected period of time in his life.

16. While Forrest Gump is in Vietnam he writes letters to Jenny about his experiences. Write one or more of these.

17. Write a poem about Forrest Gump’s childhood.

18. The film ends with Forrest Gump waiting for his son to come home from school. Expand on this and tell about their life together.

19. Write an essay about your opinion of the film.

20. Give examples of Forrest Gump taking what is said at face value. How could he have acted not to offend society, seem unintelligent and thus become a laughing stock?

21. Give a description of the presidents, presidential candidates that Forrest Gump meets or talks about. You can immerse in one of these.

22. What is the “Watergate Scandal”? Describe and explain.

23. Who are the Black Panthers?
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<td>24.</td>
<td>Tell about and explain in words and pictures the first men on the moon.</td>
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<td>25.</td>
<td>Describe Jenny’s life and explain why she develops the way she does. Choose your own way of expressing this.</td>
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<td>26.</td>
<td>Describe the relationship between Jenny and Forrest Gump – from Jenny’s point of view. Mode of expression is free.</td>
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<td>27.</td>
<td>Create a product on one or more of the symbols in the film.</td>
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<td>28.</td>
<td>Make a series of pictures on the film (a summary in pictures)</td>
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<td>29.</td>
<td>Choose one of the “sayings” on the additional paper. Choose a non-linguistic way of expressing what it means.</td>
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<td>30.</td>
<td>Find filmphotographic effects and describe their meaning to the viewer. (Perspective, cutting etc)</td>
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<td>31.</td>
<td>Prepare a debate meeting. The participants are to be informed about the Vietnam War. This means that there must be debaters both for and against the war. The debaters must be able to answer questions from the public.</td>
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<td>32.</td>
<td>Write a song dealing with one or more of the many topics in the film. You may choose a tune from the soundtrack, but that is your choice. You may play your own instruments. Topics: Mobbing, incest, love, dreams, religion, friendship, death, violence, grief at a loss, freedom, clever/stupid.</td>
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| 33. | Choose one or more numbers from the soundtrack and prepare an introduction containing the following items:  
   a. Reasons for choice of number.  
   b. Presentation of artist/group (historical background)  
   c. Presentation of the music (title and year)  
   d. Contents of the text and interpretation of the same.  
   e. The musical genre (rock, pop, soul, folk, dance, metal, gospel…)  
   f. Explain the relation between text and music.  
   You might make good use of [www.music.com](http://www.music.com) |
34. Find a quiet spot, e.g. at home.
   Allow your thoughts to flow while listening to Alan Silvestri’s “Forrest Gump Suite” and
   Reflect on the following:
   - Think the film through.
   - Which part(s) of the film had the greatest impact on you?
   - Why?
   - Imagine that you are Forrest Gump in different scenes in the film. How do you feel?
   - Do you recognize parts of Forrest’s life or feelings from your own life?
   - Which?

Take good time for this part of the assignment. You can listen to the music several times.

Now create a product showing your thoughts and feelings about the film. It is your choice how you
want to do it. All possibilities are open – only your imagination sets the limit.

*You must have your project approved before you start.*

**For teachers eyes only:**

**Mathemetic/logic intelligence:**  
Tasks 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,24

**Musical intelligence:**  
Tasks 10,11,12,32,33

**Linguistic intelligence:**  
Tasks 13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24

**Visual/spatial intelligence:**  
Tasks 24,25,26,27,28,29,30

**Social/interpersonal intelligence:**  
Task 3  
Moreover you can use the sayings as a pair/group work.

**Intrapersonal intelligence:**  
Task 34

**Bodychinesgetic intelligence:**  
None, but one might have made a table tennis tournament, something with American
Football, a game about the film.

Nature intelligence:
None, but you could have made something about the biology of Vietnam, as well as biological weapons belong here.