Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“The Things They Carried” Questions

1. What are the first few pages of the book about? Why do you think O’Brien begins the book this way?
2. Look up the following words or acronyms. What does each word or acronym mean?
   1. RTO -
   2. Grunt -
   3. KIA -
   4. PFC -
   5. SOP -
   6. "freedom bird" -
   7. "hump" –
   8. AO –
3. Why does Rat Kiley, the medic, carries M&M’s for "especially bad wounds"?
4. What does Lt. Cross think about all the time? What purpose do these thoughts serve in the story?
5. Throughout the chapter, find three lines about non-tangible things the soldiers carry. Write the **quote** for each below.
6. What was the young dead VC boy carrying? How does what he carries differ from what the American soldiers carry?
7. What did the platoon do in the village of Than Khe?
8. How does Kiowa feel about Lavendar’s death? Why would O’Brien write the character this way?
9. What were they more afraid of than dying?
10. What did Cross do with Martha’s pictures after Lavendar’s death?
11. How did his feelings for her change?
12. What might Martha stand for or signify?
13. How does Lt. Cross change his way of commanding after Lavendar’s death?