

All Quiet on the Western Front

Chapters 1–3

by Erich Maria Remarque

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: comradeship, deliverance, disconcerted, gangrene, indefatigable, indignation, martinet, ostracised, renunciation, requisitioned

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Vocabulary Preview 2

Answer Key — Preview 3

Caution: share only if self-checking

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context 4

Answer Key — In Context 5

Caution: do not share with students

About the Pre-Reading Activity (open-dictionary; ungraded or completion grade):

Students preview 10 words from the upcoming reading, each in a sentence that supports understanding. They choose the best meaning from 3 choices.

About the Optional Post-Reading Quiz (use after reading, or skip):

Same words, now in real excerpts from the text, with questions that build reading and analytical skills.

Vocabulary Sections for this Book:

Section 1 · Chapters 1–3 · Paul and his classmates as soldiers

Section 2 · Chapters 4–6 · Back to the front line

Section 3 · Chapters 7–9 · A rest period behind the lines

Section 4 · Chapters 10–12 · Guarding an abandoned supply depot

Bold = this section. Other sections are available at verbalworkout.com.



verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

Vocabulary Preview
All Quiet on the Western Front
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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Read each prompt. Then choose the best meaning for the bold word.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. The teammates' comradeship carried them through a brutal losing season.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. a run of good luckB. a bond of loyal friendshipC. a fierce drive to win <p>2. After weeks of exams, summer vacation felt like a sweet deliverance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. a well-earned rewardB. a release from hardshipC. a pleasant surprise <p>3. She looked disconcerted when the lights suddenly went out.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. unsettled and confusedB. annoyed and impatientC. frightened and tearful <p>4. Without treatment, the wound developed gangrene within days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. decay of body tissueB. a swollen bruiseC. an itchy red rash <p>5. The indefatigable volunteer kept knocking on doors all weekend.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. friendly and persuasiveB. tireless and unwearyingC. nervous and shy | <p>6. He could barely hide his indignation when they cut in line ahead of him.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. anger at unfairnessB. growing jealousyC. quiet disappointment <p>7. The martinet who ran our dorm posted a new rule every week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. a stern but kindly mentorB. a tireless organizerC. a strict disciplinarian <p>8. The other students ostracised the new boy for the rest of the year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. openly made fun ofB. secretly enviedC. shut out from the group <p>9. The prince's renunciation of the throne stunned the whole kingdom.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. a formal giving upB. a bold seizingC. a quiet acceptance <p>10. The army requisitioned trucks from the local farms during the flood.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. bought at the market priceB. borrowed briefly, then returnedC. officially ordered for use |
|---|--|

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

pushing up daisies — dead and buried (figurative)

saw red — to become suddenly enraged

esprit de corps — a shared spirit of pride, loyalty, and devotion within a group

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	B
2	B
3	A
4	A
5	B
6	A
7	C
8	C
9	A
10	C

Vocabulary in Context
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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 10

Read each excerpt carefully. Then choose the best answer to each question.

1 “... the quartermaster who remained in the rear had requisitioned the usual quantity of rations and provided for the full company of one hundred and fifty men.”

As it is used in the passage, the word “requisitioned” most nearly suggests that the quartermaster obtained the rations by—

- A. ordering them through official channels
- B. seizing them from the enemy
- C. buying them from local villagers

2 “The cook was quite disconcerted as the facts dawned on him.”

It can reasonably be inferred that the cook reacts to the news with—

- A. cheerful relief
- B. flustered dismay
- C. cold indifference

3 “... they give an intimate flavour to expressions of his greatest joy as well as of his deepest indignation.”

Which statement about the soldier’s blunt language is best supported by the passage?

- A. It avoids any mention of feeling.
- B. It expresses only good humour.
- C. It voices even his sharpest anger.

4 “They are mostly confounded little martinets.”

In the passage, small company commanders are characterized as—

- A. rigid, petty enforcers of rules
- B. stern but fair-minded leaders
- C. careless, indulgent officers

5 “But he did allow himself to be persuaded, otherwise he would have been ostracised.”

It can reasonably be inferred that Behm gave in and enlisted in order to avoid—

- A. being shut out by the others
- B. failing his school exams
- C. being punished by the army

6 “... resolved itself here into a renunciation of personality such as one would not ask of the meanest servants ...”

The author most likely lists the salutes and parade-marches in order to—

- A. explain the rules new recruits learn
- B. show how drill strips away the self
- C. praise the order of military life

7 “... which in the field developed into the finest thing that arose out of the war—comradeship.”

The information in the excerpt primarily functions to identify the war’s finest outcome as—

- A. the loyal bond among fellow soldiers
- B. the courage to face enemy fire
- C. the discipline drilled into recruits

8 “This atmosphere of carbolic and gangrene clogs the lungs, it is a thick gruel, it suffocates.”

In context, the word “gangrene” emphasizes—

- A. the damp of the cold ward
- B. the rot of dying, infected bodies
- C. the sting of strong disinfectant

9 “Outside the door I am aware of the darkness and the wind as a deliverance.”

The passage most strongly suggests that, once outside, Paul feels—

- A. afraid of the coming night
- B. guilty about leaving Franz
- C. released from the room of death

10 “... towering over them like a woodcutter the indefatigable Tjaden.”

In the passage, Tjaden is characterized as—

- A. clumsy and easily worn out
- B. reluctant and holding back
- C. tirelessly energetic at his task

ANSWER KEY
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#	KEY	NOTE
1	A	
2	B	
3	C	
4	A	Himmelstoss exemplifies the petty martinet later in the section.
5	A	
6	B	
7	A	Theme comprehension. The brutal training of Chapter Two is framed as having forged this bond.
8	B	
9	C	Event comprehension. The relief follows directly on Kemmerich's death, which Paul is leaving behind.
10	C	

Teacher Context: Chapters 1–3

The novel opens with Paul Baumer and his former schoolmates resting behind the lines after heavy fighting. Through flashback we learn how their schoolmaster pressured them to enlist and how they endured brutal training under Himmelstoss, and we follow them to the bedside of the dying Kemmerich. These first three chapters establish the soldiers, their bond, and their disillusionment before the sustained front-line action that begins in Chapter 4.