

All Quiet on the Western Front

Chapters 4–6

by Erich Maria Remarque

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: annihilation, communion, disabuse, equanimity, fallible, forebodings, forlorn, insatiable, putrefaction, stupor

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
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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

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

1. The asteroid threatened the **annihilation** of every city in its path.
 - A. complete destruction
 - B. gradual decline
 - C. total isolation
2. The old friends shared a quiet **communion** as they watched the sunset.
 - A. a long conversation
 - B. a deep connection
 - C. a peaceful truce
3. It took weeks to **disabuse** her of that stubborn notion.
 - A. to scold for a mistake
 - B. to remind of a hard truth
 - C. to free from a false belief
4. She accepted the bad news with surprising **equanimity**.
 - A. calm composure
 - B. cold indifference
 - C. quiet sadness
5. My grandfather insists that even doctors are **fallible**.
 - A. set in their ways
 - B. able to make mistakes
 - C. slow to take action
6. She was filled with **forebodings** as the storm clouds gathered.
 - A. feelings of sudden anger
 - B. feelings of coming trouble
 - C. feelings of deep regret
7. The **forlorn** puppy waited by the empty driveway.
 - A. lonely and hopeless
 - B. restless and bored
 - C. tired and hungry
8. The toddler had an **insatiable** curiosity about everything around her.
 - A. easy to distract
 - B. slow to develop
 - C. impossible to satisfy
9. A smell of **putrefaction** rose from the forgotten garbage.
 - A. rot and decay
 - B. smoke and ash
 - C. damp and mold
10. After the night shift she stumbled home in a **stupor**.
 - A. a foul mood
 - B. a great hurry
 - C. a dazed state

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

cooked his goose — ruined his chances; brought about his downfall
play truant — to stay away from school without permission

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	A
2	B
3	C
4	A
5	B
6	B
7	A
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 *"In the spasm of terror, under the hailing of annihilation, in the bellowing death of the explosions, O Earth, thou grantest us the great resisting surge of new-won life."*

As it is used in the passage, the word "annihilation" most nearly suggests...

- A. being deafened by the blasts
- B. being wiped out entirely
- C. being driven into retreat

2 *"It is not conscious; it is far quicker, much more sure, less fallible, than consciousness."*

It can reasonably be inferred that the soldier's instinct...

- A. makes fewer mistakes
- B. works more slowly
- C. needs conscious thought

3 *"Müller is insatiable and gives himself no peace."*

In the passage, Müller is characterized as...

- A. calm and easygoing
- B. quick to lose interest
- C. unable to be satisfied

4 *"We don't talk much, but I believe we have a more complete communion with one another than even lovers have."*

The information in the excerpt primarily functions to...

- A. stress their deep bond
- B. contrast them with lovers
- C. explain their long silences

5 *"Our forebodings increase as rum is served out."*

Which statement is best supported by the passage?

- A. The men dread what is coming.
- B. The men welcome the extra rum.
- C. The men expect to go home.

6 *"We do not disabuse them; we know that food is as important as ammunition ..."*

The passage most strongly suggests that the experienced men...

- A. scold the recruits sharply
- B. let the recruits stay hopeful
- C. share the recruits' hope

7 *"... our lips are dry, our heads are debauched with stupor ..."*

In context, the word "stupor" emphasizes...

- A. their burning thirst
- B. their rising fury
- C. their dazed numbness

8 *"We are forlorn like children, and experienced like old men, we are crude and sorrowful and superficial—I believe we are lost."*

Which choice best describes the speaker's attitude toward his own generation?

- A. hopeless despair
- B. restless hope
- C. defiant pride

9 *"This deathly exhalation from the shell-holes seems to be a mixture of chloroform and putrefaction, and fills us with nausea and retching."*

According to the passage, the smell rising from the shell-holes is...

- A. the sting of gunpowder smoke
- B. the reek of rotting flesh
- C. the damp of churned mud

10 *"Kat surprises Tjaden endeavouring with perfect equanimity to knock the driving-band off a dud."*

The author most likely includes Tjaden's handling of the dud in order to...

- A. show his clumsiness
- B. show his hidden fear
- C. show his calm near danger

ANSWER KEY
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#	KEY	NOTE
1	B	
2	A	
3	C	
4	A	Used in its secular sense of a deep, wordless closeness, not the religious rite.
5	A	Event comprehension. The rum and cheese are signs of 'a bad time coming,' so the issue deepens the men's dread rather than cheering them.
6	B	Event comprehension. The recruits believe food getting through means things 'can't be so bad'; the men know better but leave that false comfort alone.
7	C	
8	A	
9	B	
10	C	

Teacher Context: Chapters 4–6

The men go up to the front to lay barbed wire and endure a bombardment that kills and unhinges raw recruits. Back at rest they argue about the war's causes and the deceptions of their elders, then return for a major enemy offensive of trench fighting and counterattacks. The break falls after Chapter 6 because Chapter 7 pulls the company back for an extended rest period and Paul's home leave.