

HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE PREP ENGLISH IB

*All Quiet on the Western Front*

Comprehension Questions

Chapters 1-4

1. From the copyright page of the book, what year was ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT first published? \_\_\_\_\_
2. From the title page, in what language was the book originally written? \_\_\_\_\_
3. From the preface page, what does the author say about death?
  - a. That it is part of life.
  - b. That it is not an adventure.
  - c. Only the old should die.
  - d. None of the above.
4. Who does the writer say eats a lot of food and stays very thin?
  - a. himself
  - b. Tjaden
  - c. Muller
  - d. The cook
5. Which of the soldiers still carries his schoolbooks and has dreams of completing his education?
  - a. Kropp
  - b. Katczinsky
  - c. Muller
  - d. Leer
6. What is the name of the person in the story who is writing the events and his feelings about them?
  - a. Paul
  - b. Albert
  - c. Herman
  - d. Adolf
7. How old were the writer and his friends when they joined the army? \_\_\_\_\_
8. How old is the leader of the group, Stanislaus Katczinsky? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What did the writer say about Kantorek?
  - a. He had been the group's schoolmaster.
  - b. He was small in size.
  - c. He persuaded the writer and his classmates to volunteer for the army.
  - d. All of the above.

10. Who was the first of the classmates to get shot and die? \_\_\_\_\_
11. In Chapter 2, what does the writer say was the best thing to come out of the war?  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. Give three examples from Chapter 4 of how the writer relates the importance of the earth to the soldier.
- a.
  - b.
  - c.
13. Where was the group of men when they were trapped in the shell hole and had to wear their gas masks? \_\_\_\_\_
14. After the battle at the end of Chapter 4, how many of the writer's squad have been killed? \_\_\_\_\_
15. SHORT ANSWER (one paragraph)  
In Chapter 4, Kat considers shooting one of his own men. Read this part of the story again and state whether you agree or disagree with his decision. Why doesn't he carry it out?

### **Chapters 5-7**

16. What insects did the soldiers constantly have to rid from their bodies?
- a. ants
  - b. flies
  - c. lice
  - d. roaches
17. What was the name of the sergeant who the men didn't like and, who, in Chapter 5, shows up at the front line with them? \_\_\_\_\_
18. What was it in Chapter 5 that Tjaden did to make the sergeant so mad?
- a. Tjaden deserted his post.
  - b. Tjaden didn't give him a cigarette when he asked for one.
  - c. Tjaden shot his gun before ordered to do so.
  - d. Tjaden didn't stand up and salute him.
19. The men were harshly punished because of their behavior with the sergeant? T / F
20. Who or what is eating the mens' ration of bread?
- a. enemy soldiers
  - b. cockroaches
  - c. rats
  - d. their own comrades

21. What did the cheese and rum the men received in Chapter 6 signify to them?
- Someone thought they were doing a good job.
  - Himmelstoss was offering an apology.
  - That there was a thief amongst them.
  - That major fighting was about to begin.
22. In Chapter 6, who was Germany fighting?
- France
  - England
  - U.S.
  - Russia
23. The new recruits died much faster in battle because:
- They had little training.
  - They were mostly younger men.
  - They didn't have the experience of battle.
  - All of the above.
24. What happened when Paul encountered Himmelstoss in a dug-out during a battle?
- They ignored each other.
  - Himmelstoss rescued Paul.
  - Paul beat up Himmelstoss for being a coward.
  - None of the above.
25. What time of the year is it at the end of Chapter 6? \_\_\_\_\_
26. What was the name of the company Paul was in?
- Blue
  - First
  - Third
  - Second
27. What time of year did Paul's company come to the front line?
- Spring
  - Summer
  - Winter
  - Fall
28. How many men did the unit have when it began? \_\_\_\_\_
29. How many men were left at the end of Chapter 6? \_\_\_\_\_
30. SHORT ANSWER (one paragraph)  
What do you think Paul meant when he said in Chapter 6: "We are insensible, dead men, who, through some trick, some dreadful magic, are still able to run and to kill"?

**Chapters 5-7** (continued)

31. What reason does Paul give as to why the soldiers seem to forget things like killing and death so quickly?
- They lose all feeling
  - They are stupid
  - Habit
  - None of the above
32. What was it that finally got the attention of the girls on the river bank?
- A loaf of bread
  - The guys' good looks
  - They realized the men were soldiers
  - None of the above
33. How many days leave did Paul get? \_\_\_\_\_
34. Why didn't Paul's mother greet him at the door when he arrived home?
- She was working
  - She was ill
  - She was angry that he had enlisted
  - She didn't care about Paul
35. Why was Paul confused and lonely while on leave?
- He felt different from everyone who hadn't been in the war.
  - His feelings about the war from his family members so as not to upset them.
  - Having had to fight for his life, he couldn't relate to the everyday troubles and worries of people.
  - All of the above
36. What was in Paul's bedroom that he spent a lot of time thinking about that first night of his leave?
- Photos
  - Furniture
  - Civilian clothes
  - Books
37. Whose mother did Paul go to see to tell her that her son had been killed?
38. SHORT ANSWER (one paragraph)  
Explain why, in Chapter 7, Paul got so angry at the district commander who he encountered on a village street while on leave.

## **Chapters 8-9**

39. Who was in the prison camp next to Paul's army?
- French soldiers
  - English soldiers
  - American soldiers
  - Russian soldiers
40. What was it Paul heard that gave him so much comfort when he was in the shallow shell hole while out scouting?
- Birds singing
  - The imagined voice of his mother
  - Music
  - The voices of his comrades
41. What was the occupation of the wounded soldier who Paul killed while in the shell hole? \_\_\_\_\_

42. **SHORT ANSWER:**

Write 2 paragraphs explaining why you feel Paul's killing of the enemy soldier in the shell hole was so upsetting to Paul.

## **Chapters 10-12**

43. What did Paul's squad find to roast to eat while guarding the village?
- A lamb
  - Chickens
  - Baby pigs
  - Ducks
44. What alerted the enemy to the location of Paul's squad when it was in the village?
- Smoke from the chimney
  - Noise from gun shots
  - Music from a radio
  - An enemy spy walking by
45. Why did Paul not want the doctor to give him Chloroform to help ease his pain?
- Paul was allergic to it
  - Paul was afraid of what the doctor would do to him if he went to sleep
  - Paul did not like the way Chloroform made him feel
  - None of the above
46. What did Paul do to make sure he and Albert got to the same hospital?
- He bribed the nurse.
  - He begged the doctor to let them stay together.
  - He pretended to have a fever.
  - He hid and got off the train with Albert.

47. Why was Peter so upset when the nurse came to take him to the bandaging ward?

- a. He was afraid they were going to hurt him.
- b. He didn't want to leave his friends.
- c. He didn't like the doctor in the bandaging ward.
- d. He was afraid the nurse was taking him away to die.

48. Why did Albert become depressed?

- a. He missed his wife.
- b. He wanted to be back with the fighting.
- c. He was to die soon.
- d. His leg was amputated.

49. What happened to the man named Detering in Paul's unit?

- a. He got into a fight with the sergeant and was arrested.
- b. He was sent home due to an injury.
- c. He was shot in the back while on guard duty.
- d. He tried to run away, was caught and court-martialed.

50. What did Muller give to Paul before he died?

- a. His watch
- b. A letter written to his mother.
- c. The boots that Muller had gotten from Kemmerich.
- d. Orders for Paul to visit Muller's mother.

51. What happened during the summer of 1918?

- a. Germany was losing the war.
- b. Rumors of peace began spreading.
- c. Many German soldiers were killed.
- d. All of the above

52. How many years had Kat and Paul been together in the war? \_\_\_\_\_

53. How many men from Paul's original unit are left at the end of the book? \_\_\_\_\_

54. SHORT ANSWER

Write 2 paragraphs about how you felt when you finished reading Chapter 12. Include your feelings about:

- a. Paul's depression
- b. Paul's feelings about being misunderstood by past and future generations.
- c. Paul's death and how he possibly felt when he died.