

Directions: Think about the following questions and write some notes. You will participate in a small group discussion about three or more of them. Be prepared to discuss any of them!

1. **How has Paul changed** by the end of the novel, before his death? What, specifically, caused this change?
2. Who are all the men who owned **the boots**? What might the boots (or their transfer from man to man) symbolize?
3. How and why are **irony** and **paradox** used in the novel?
What specific scenes come to mind?
Why are these effective tools to describe war?
4. Remarque writes in his forward that he “will try simply to tell of a generation of men who, even though they may have escaped shells, were destroyed by war.” In what way was Paul’s generation “**destroyed**” by the war?
What was destroyed?
5. What does the author seem to argue are the **causes** of and **solutions** to war?
6. How would *All Quiet on the Western Front* be **different** if it were told from the perspective of a modern-day American soldier during the war in Iraq? What events would be the same? different? What ideas and issues might change? Be the same?
7. What **effect** did the novel have on you? Did it change your thinking in any way? Which events and characters had the most impact and why?