"All Quiet on the Western Front"

"All Quiet on the Western Front" is a classic Hollywood film from 1930. This film is an adaptation of Erich Remarque's 1929 novel by the same name. It takes a hard look at the tragedy of war using World War I as its backdrop.

As you watch the movie, please answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper. Please number your answers, use complete sentences, and write legibly.

1. What is the title of this film? When was it made? Who wrote the original novel?

2. How did the teacher portray war?

3. Why did the students join the Army?

4. What role did the mailman (Himmelstoess) have? Give an example of how Himmelstoess changed between when the boys were in school and when they became recruits. Why do you think this happened?

5. How were conditions at the Western Front different from their expectations in training camp?

6. What was the impact of the shelling on the new recruits?

7. What happened after the bombardment?

8. In the attack, what did the machine gun do to the glory of war and individual heroism?

9. How many of the company died in this first battle? How do you know? Why were they able to eat so well finally?

10. Who did they blame for this war? Who did they omit in their list of potential villains?

11. How did the doctors' react to Kemmerich's plight?

12. What happened to Kemmerich's boots?
------------BACK ON THE FRONT-----------------------------

13. How was Sgt. Himmelstoess received when he arrived at the front?
14. What was the pattern of a battle? What preceded the attack? What followed it?
15. What happened to Paul Baumer when he found himself in a shellhole in No Man's Land with the French soldier?
16. Why did the French girls - ostensibly the enemy - accept the German soldiers?

----------ON THE HOME FRONT-------------------------------

17. After four years of war, how has the German homefront been affected? Were there still the parades, crowded streets, and joyous sounds of going off to war?
18. What were the attitudes of the men in the beer hall? Were they willing to listen to what Paul had to say?
19. How does Paul Baumer confront his former teacher?
20. How do the young students react to his vision of the war?

----------------RETURN TO WAR-----------------------------

21. How has the company changed during Paul's absence?
22. What is ironic about Kat's and Paul's deaths? [Note: The war ended on November 11, 1918.]
23. Describe the attitude of this movie towards World War I and all wars.
24. Why is the move called “All Quiet on the Western Front”?
25. Including an example from the movie, explain this quote: “This story is neither an accusation nor a confession, and least of all an adventure, for death is not an adventure to those who stand face to face with it. It will try simply to tell of a generation of men who, even though they may have escaped its shells, were destroyed by the war..."