

Chapter 1: War

1. Why was Joseph determined to have no hand in war?
2. Why were the bells ringing and guns being fired in succession in the village?
3. From the text, can you determine what Joseph's grandfather's occupation was?
4. Why did Joseph change his mind about being a soldier so that he decided to "go a soldiering?"
5. Why did Joseph not enlist after all.

Chapter 2: The Campaign of 1776

1. What made Joseph think his grandfather had changed his mind and would now give his consent for Joseph to enlist?
2. What did Joseph mean when he said, "I wished only to take a priming before I took upon me the whole coat of paint for a soldier."
3. When Joseph went to enlist, did he touch the pen to the paper to write his name all by himself?
4. Did the army provide Joseph with the clothing and arms he would need while being a soldier?
5. After landing at Brooklyn, Joseph's regiment was ordered to engage the enemy on the plains. While there, there was a time when the grapeshot of the British was showering down on the Americans. What stopped the grapeshot?
6. Where did Joseph sleep the night before he went to get straw from the barn?
7. Why was Joseph's regiment ordered to march to Turtle Bay? Why was this important to do?
8. How did Joseph come to be without a pack?
9. During the retreat of the Kip's Bay engagement, Joseph and the other soldiers he was with were trying to overtake and join a group of other soldiers, and then they changed their minds and did not try to overtake them. Why?
10. How did Joseph come to be carrying two muskets? Did he end up keeping them?
11. How did Joseph come to be so close to some British soldiers that he could see the "buttons on their clothes?"
12. Why did one of the lieutenant colonels say, "Here, eat this and learn to be a soldier"?
13. What were the living conditions like that October for Joseph?
14. How did Joseph come to be without a cooking kettle?
15. Upon the soldiers' retreat from the battle at the orchard, Joseph heard a soldier say, "Now I am going out to the field to be killed." What happened to that soldier, and do you think Joseph had the same attitude?
16. When Joseph fell sick, how was he cared for?

Chapter 3: The Campaign of 1777

1. How did Joseph come to serve in the army again?
2. Describe Danbury after the British had been there.
3. What did the army do to make soldiers immune to smallpox?
4. Why did Joseph hop for five miles on one foot?
5. Why did Joseph have to send for a surgeon a second time?
6. What was one of the factors which contributed to the rout of the whole army near Germantown?
7. What made the conditions in Ft. Mifflin appalling to Joseph?
8. As the American soldiers had no cannonballs for their thirty-two pound canon, how were they able to use this canon?
9. Joseph was going to volunteer to hoist a signal flag from the flagstaff, but a sergeant offered to go first. This officer was killed by a cannon shot upon his descent. Does Joseph assume that he would have been killed if he had gone up instead?
10. Why was Joseph left in the fort while most of the men went to the Jersey shore in the retreat?
11. How was Joseph's sleep on the Jersey shore different from his sleep in the fort?
12. When Joseph joined the main army near Philadelphia, what sort of shelter did they have for the winter?
13. Look up *gill* in the dictionary and write its definition.
14. What did Congress vote to give the troops for a Thanksgiving feast?
15. How did Joseph contrive to get a pair of shoes when he had none?
16. Who did Joseph think took notice and care of the troops? Who do you think he felt should have noticed and cared for them?

17. Joseph was called out for some special work and would get final orders from the quartermaster. What was the job?

Chapter 4: The Campaign of 1778

1. Why did Joseph fare better than he ever did before or would again on this new assignment?
2. What was the most difficult item to procure, and why?
3. Why did Joseph have to leave his foraging duties and return to camp?
4. At Barren Hill, when Joseph was away from the main part of the army guarding the horses, how did he learn that the British were advancing on their rear?
5. What blunder did the British make when they were trying to surround the American forces?
6. What do you think Joseph thought of General Lafayette based on the Barren Hill affair?
7. Do you think Joseph thought the ladies admired the troops as they passed through Princeton?
8. Did the retreating British army engender respect?
9. Did the sick and the lame stay behind gladly when it came time to engage the British in battle?
10. Why was Colonel Cilly inquiring for General Varnum's men?
11. As Joseph looked back on the incident where he took aim at the broad shouldered enemy soldier, how did he think on it?
12. What was the special incident Joseph took note of and included in this record?
13. What did Joseph not like about the Light Infantry regiment he was assigned to?
14. Why does he write that the duties of the Light Infantry are the hardest?
15. Why was Joseph being shot at upon his return to camp after retrieving his handkerchief?

Chapter 5: The Campaign of 1779

1. How did the men keep the officers from sleeping?
2. When nothing changed with regard to provisions for the men, what did the troops determine to do?
3. How did the colonel and the major persuade the men to stay?
4. How far and in what time did Joseph walk to return to his grandparents' house?
5. Using a map, list some locations that are 30 miles from your house and then imagine walking there. That is how far Joseph walked!
6. Did Joseph like the bread they were served while in New London?
7. While entertaining themselves at their quarters in Peekskill, what action did Joseph regret?
8. Why did the officers in command over Joseph want to attack Verplanck's Point?
9. Why does Joseph tell the "gentle reader" that they should not blame the soldiers for "procuring" tools by taking them however they may?

Chapter 6: The Campaign of 1780

1. As you read through this chapter, see if you can find any link between information in the chapter and the quotes below—both from extremely different sources.

Hark, hark! the dogs do bark!
Beggars are coming to town:
Some in jags, and some in rags
And some in velvet gown.
Common Nursery Rhyme

For her own person,
It beggared all description: she did lie
In her pavilion—cloth of gold, of tissue—
O'er-picturing that Venus where we see
The fancy outwork nature.
Shakespeare, describing Cleopatra as she first appeared to Antony in his play *Antony & Cleopatra*

2. Why was a detachment sent to attack the British forces on Staten Island in January?
3. Was the attack a success?
4. When there was heavy snowfall and they could get no other food, what did Joseph, his fellow soldiers, and some of the officers eat?
5. How did Joseph come to be in Westfield in February?

Chapter 7: The Campaign of 1781

1. When Joseph went home on furlough, did he see his grandparents again?
2. When Joseph arrived back at West Point he found his corps gone. How did he find where they were, and where were they?

3. After the 400 mile walk to Annapolis, what did Joseph find there?
4. One night when Joseph was on guard duty, an odd episode took place. What was this episode, and what was odd about it?
5. Who arranged for Joseph and his fellow soldiers to be paid? Was it common for them to be paid?
6. Joseph says that the British at Yorktown were thinking, "The fewer the better cheer," while they were thinking, "The more the merrier." What do you think he meant by this?
7. Someone gave Joseph and his fellow sappers and miners advice that, should they be taken prisoners, they should not tell the British what their job was. Who gave them this advice, and why shouldn't they admit they were sappers and miners?
8. Why did Joseph's heart "swell with pride" when the signal went up?
9. Joseph thought the British were killing off the American soldiers at a great rate. Was this so?
10. Why did Joseph have to walk about a mile for water when they were surrounded by springs?
11. Why did Joseph think the British did not look so well upon surrender as the Germans did?

Answers to Yankee Doodle Boy Literature Unit 5

Chapter 1: War

1. He felt himself to be a real coward and did not want to go where bullets may damage his person.
2. to call people to the village—for soldiers were in requisition for Boston
3. The text states that Joseph's grandfather would talk to him while "working in the fields" and that when the call came for villagers to come to the village, his grandfather "immediately turned out the team and repaired homeward." The text would seem to indicate that Joseph's grandfather was a farmer.
4. Some of the soldiers raised for Boston and New York were lodged at his grandfather's house. Their company and conversation "warmed his courage."
5. Joseph's grandparents did not want him to enlist. Enlisting without their permission would hurt their feelings so much that he decided not to do so at that time.

Chapter 2: The Campaign of 1776

1. Joseph's grandfather had told Joseph's grandmother that Joseph wanted to serve on a privateer that was fitting out in their neighborhood. He thought that if Joseph was determined to enter into service, it would be better to have him on land.
2. He did not want to enlist for an entire year, it being too long for his first try in the army.
3. No. There was a man who, while leaning over Joseph's shoulder, caused his hand to put a pen stroke on the paper. Once that scratch was made, they assumed he had enlisted, so Joseph thought he may as well "go through with the business" and write his name on the indentures.
4. No. Joseph's grandparents supplied him with arms, clothing and other various items he would need while traveling across the countryside as a soldier. They also made sure to give him a pocket Bible.
5. While Joseph and his regiment were on the way to the battlefield, they passed some soldiers dragging a heavy cannon towards the field. This cannon eventually arrived, and its shot towards the British forced the British to shift their position so they could no longer fire grapeshot at the Americans.
6. on the ground covered with a growth of young trees
7. to protect large warehouses containing marine stores from British ships. It was important for them to protect these stores because the warehouses contained 2,500 barrels of flour. The British could use this flour to make provisions (bread) for themselves.
8. Joseph and his regiment were ordered to leave their packs in a wood before they went down into the lines to engage in battle. Upon their retreat, they had no way to return to pick up their packs and so had to go on without them.
9. They discovered they were Hessians.
10. Joseph came upon a friend of his who was feeling ill. Joseph offered to carry his musket for him until he felt better and then left him to try to find the main part of the regiment. Much later in the day, he found his friend again, returned the musket and encouraged him to keep going until eventually they were able to rejoin their regiment.
11. During the retreat of the Kip's Bay Affair, he was hiding in some bushes when some British soldiers walked so close to him that he could see the buttons on their clothes.
12. The men Joseph was with had had nothing to eat for forty-eight hours. One of the men complained to a lieutenant colonel of being hungry. The colonel pulled some burnt corn from his pocket and offered it to the soldier to eat. He said this because he thought a soldier should expect to be hungry and then eat whatever he could.
13. The living conditions were very hard. Joseph had no clothing but his thin summer clothes and no blankets. So he had to lie directly on the ground to sleep. He had to go between doing sentry duty and sleeping by rotating so that the side which had "frozen" could thaw. He had to sleep like this even if it was raining.
14. Joseph and his messmates had to carry a heavy cast iron cooking kettle. They were so tired and hungry that they did not have the strength to carry it, and could not see the purpose in carrying it since there was nothing to cook in it anyway. Joseph tried to carry it, but when he lifted it the weight almost dislocated his arms. One of his messmates gave it a shove, it rolled away, and that was the last Joseph saw of it.
15. The soldier was shot and killed on the field. Answers will vary for the second half of the question.
16. He was sent to the baggage to be left alone and get better if he could. He had to lie on some dry leaves and had nothing to eat or drink.

Chapter 3: The Campaign of 1777

1. Citizens were formed into squads depending upon their ratable property. Every squad had to provide a man for the army, either by sending one of their own or hiring someone. Joseph was hired by a family to be their representative and so enlisted in the army for three years or the duration of the war.
2. Danbury had been laid in ashes by the British. Some of the inhabitants had been murdered and thrown into their burning houses.
3. To make the soldiers immune from smallpox, the army took soldiers, gave them the infection, then waited about two weeks for the men to get better before returning them to their regiments.
4. Joseph broke his ankle while jumping into a boat. There were no friends there to aid him, so he had to hop 5 miles back to his camp to get assistance.
5. Joseph's captain decided that his ankle was not set correctly and twisted it out of position.
6. Some of the American soldiers called out that their ammunition was spent. Nearby enemy overheard them and so made a stand and turned on the American soldiers.
7. November was cold, and Joseph had no provisions, clothing or shoes or stockings.
8. The British had a thirty-two pound canon which they were using to fire at the Americans. When a cannonball landed in the fort, men were paid a gill of rum to pick up the ball so that it could be fired back at the British.
9. No. Joseph says he might have been killed, but Divine Providence may have otherwise determined it, and they might have both lived.
10. Joseph stayed in the fort with a party of men to burn everything before the British took over.
11. While he slept on the Jersey shore, he was comfortable on a bed of leaves and was actually able to lie down. When he was able to sleep in the fort, it was in short little naps while sitting and leaning against a wall.
12. They constructed huts by laying up poles and covering them with leaves to shelter them from the winter storms.
13. A gill is a measurement equal to a half cup.
14. The Congress voted to give the troops half a gill of rice and a tablespoon of vinegar as a Thanksgiving meal.
15. He took a small piece of raw cowhide and made himself a pair of moccasins.
16. Joseph thought a "kind and holy Providence" took better notice and care of the troops than the country they were giving their lives to serve.
17. to go into the country on a foraging expedition

Chapter 4: The Campaign of 1778

1. As part of the foraging team, he had good and plentiful food, people were kind to them, and he had no guard duty to keep.
2. The most difficult item to procure was a horse. Generally the horses would be protected by the women who had no fear of the soldiers' muskets. They knew that though the soldiers may threaten, they would never use force on a lady. So they would free the horses to run and get away from the soldiers.
3. Headquarters required all parties and guards at the camp to be relieved who had not had the smallpox.
4. The officers' waiters came to collect the horses and gave them the news.
5. They assumed the rear guard with its field pieces was actually the front of the detachment. Instead of surrounding a force, there was thin air.
6. Answers will vary, but should be based on information in the text.
7. Answers may vary. The ladies could be thought to admire the troops because they were offering their lives in service for this new country, or it could be said that they did not admire the troops because they were "half-starved and three-quarters naked."
8. No. As they retreated, they killed cattle, hacked household furniture and filled up wells with debris.
9. No. The officers had to exercise their full authority to make them stay.
10. He wanted to use these Connecticut and Rhode Island men to drive the British from their place in the orchard.
11. He hoped that he had not killed him even though he had intended to at the time.
12. Joseph wrote of a special incident he observed where a woman was assisting her husband at a cannon. While working at the cannon, an enemies' cannonball passed directly between her legs. She seemed to be unconcerned and continued her work at the cannon.
13. It was composed of New Englanders and Pennsylvanians whom he regarded as southern troops and composed chiefly of foreigners.
14. because they are always on the lines near the enemy, and therefore they must always be on the alert and constantly on watch
15. There were patrols around Joseph's camp to ensure that no one deserted. When Joseph tried to return to camp they assumed he was a deserter and kept shooting at him.

Chapter 5: The Campaign of 1779

1. by firing cannons all night long
2. They decided to disperse to their homes if they could not be better fed.
3. The colonel used the old modes of flattery and promises to persuade the men to stay and return to their huts.
4. Joseph walked 30 miles in one day to return home.
5. Answers will vary.
6. No. He thought that a villainous drug had been put into it to strip the skin from their mouths so that they would not eat much of it.
7. Joseph and some other soldiers took a wagon wheel up a hill behind the barracks to let it roll down on its own. It went off course, heading straight for one of the barracks where it would have torn through the wall and very possibly injured quite a few soldiers. Joseph regretted ever touching the wagon wheel.
8. so that they would have some glory to their name, after they heard that General Wayne in command of the Light Infantry had taken Stony Point
9. because the soldiers were in great distress from the cold, and when a man is in that condition he is not over scrupulous how he obtains relief

Chapter 6: The Campaign of 1780

1. Joseph uses phrases that must have been common knowledge to describe the site of the people walking with the baggage train. He writes, "A caravan of wild beasts
2. It was supposed that the bay before New York was frozen to prevent any assistance from being given to the British.
3. No. The British had been warned of their arrival so the Americans could not surprise them, it would be too hazardous to take their works by storm, and they could not take the fort by normal means as the bay was not frozen as much as they had expected.
4. When there had been some heavy snowfall and there had not been food for many days, Joseph ate some black birch bark that he gnawed off a stick of wood. He saw some soldiers roast and eat their shoes and heard that some officers had killed a pet dog and eaten it.
5. The First Brigade which he belonged to had been ordered to the lines near Staten Island. Westfield was the town near Staten Island where they took up their quarters.

Chapter 7: The Campaign of 1781

1. No. When Joseph went home on furlough this time, he found that his grandmother had passed away and that his grandfather had gone forty miles into the country to stay with his son. He never saw him again.
2. Since everyone else whom Joseph asked did not know where his corps had gone, Joseph finally decided to ask the commissary. He told Joseph that they had gone to Virginia with General Lafayette.
3. His corps of Sappers and Miners were on board vessels to head back to West Point.
4. A sentinel brought two or three officers to Joseph who were going past them. Joseph took the strangers to their officers—the officers examined them, and they were permitted to pass on. This episode was odd, because the next morning Joseph could remember nothing whatsoever of the incident because he had been so worn down by fatigue.
5. Joseph and his fellow soldiers were given a month's pay by their French officers, who borrowed the money from the officers in the French army. It was not common for them to be paid, and this was the first time they had received wages since 1776.
6. The soldiers were hoping the British soldiers in Yorktown would come out and fight them, therefore, the more soldiers at Yorktown the merrier. The British would not leave their scanty accommodations to fight them, and probably thought the fewer soldiers there, the cheerier the place.
7. George Washington gave them the advice to not disclose their positions. He did this because according to the laws of warfare, sappers and miners were not given any quarter (not granted mercy or given their lives).
8. He saw the "star-spangled-banner" waving in the faces of their enemies.
9. No. There were large holes that the troops were falling into.
10. The water from the springs around them tasted like it had been standing in iron or copper vessels. The water from the brook about a mile away tasted much better.
11. The British felt their honor was wounded. He thinks the Germans did not care so much because they didn't much care whose hands they were in.