

# The Christmas Truce

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. During what war does this story take place?
2. A few months into the war, the two sides were locked in a *stalemate*. What is a stalemate?



If you do not already know what a stalemate is, how can you learn its meaning from the text?

3. What is a trench?

Why did the two opposing armies build lines of trenches?

4. No Man's Land was a '*barren*' stretch of land between the two lines of trenches. What does *barren* mean?
5. Why had the British soldiers been warned to stay alert on Christmas Eve?
6. Do you think it was wrong for the British soldiers to sing Christmas carols with the enemy on Christmas Eve? Why, or why not?

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7. Do you think it was wrong for the British soldiers to celebrate Christmas Day with the Germans? Explain.
8. Why wouldn't the commanding officers want the soldiers to be friendly with the enemy, even at Christmas?
9. Why do you think the British soldiers wanted to keep fighting against the German soldiers once Christmas was over?
10. If you had been a British soldier, would you have joined in the truce? Explain.

What if some of your buddies had already been killed, or injured, in the war?