

Date: _____

Teacher: _____

Sergeant Stubby In The Great War: Glossary

Note: This complimentary glossary of terms related to the war and time period of the book is provided by the author, Melissa Pilgrim.

Disclaimer: This glossary is provided as a general template only. Teachers are welcomed to implement adaptations to it based on their own student's individual interests and needs, whenever needed, or according to their school's (or state's) course study or curricula needs.

Dogcatcher: A low level, elected position in the 1900's to keep stray dog populations under control by catching them and sending them to a dog pound, where most dogs were then "disposed of" (meaning killed) unless picked up in time by an owner.

1917: The year the story starts and part of a time period in history called the Progressive Era when social activism and political reform was strong. The president of the United States at this time was President Woodrow Wilson (in his second term).

Yale Daily News: An independent college newspaper in New Haven, Connecticut where Yale University, one of America's first colleges, is located.

Ford Model T (also known as a "Tin Lizzie"): One of the first affordable early cars made by Henry Ford's new assembly-line-styled factory that many people were able to own, replacing the horse and buggy. It had a top speed of 45 MPH.

Drill Commands: A series of instructions taught to army soldiers that help them stand, move, and act correctly (and in unison) while in groups or when addressing superior officers. Example: "Right, FACE!" means turn to your right.

Doughboy: A name American soldiers were called at this time (in 1917) and throughout their time fighting in World War I (when this story takes place) which goes into the year 1918. There is no exact known origin of the reason for how this term started. However, the most common theories are:

- As far back as the 1840's soldiers cooked "doughy flour and rice" field rations that they baked in the ashes of their campfires to eat; references to them being called "doughboys" because of this starts appearing in history around this time.
- In 1916 American military operations were taking place on the Mexican border. The marching foot soldiers got covered in chalky, abode (house) dust, making them look like the mud bricks that were used in the area to build homes, so the mounted troops started calling them "abodes," which sounded like "dough."

- Also at this time other people in Mexico thought the foot soldiers, covered in the same chalky dust, made them look like they were made of “unbaked dough” and thus started calling them “doughboys.”

Army Training Camp (“Camp Yale”): A place where U.S. army soldiers were stationed before going off to war or serving as an enlisted member of the military. There were many training camps set up all over the country at this time to help train the soldiers before going off to fight in World War I. In this story the training camp is called Camp Yale since it is located on the campus of Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut.

Central Powers: The countries of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, and the Ottoman Empire who fought together during World War I.

Allied Nations: The countries of Britain, France, Italy, Russia, and the United States who fought together during World War I.

USS *Minnesota*: A large battleship.

Western Front: The fighting zone in France and Flanders during World War I.

Trenches: Long, deep, narrow holes dug into the ground; they can stretch for miles.

Artillery: Large-caliber weapons and guns such as missiles, mortars, and cannons that are used to shoot destructive devices over a long distance.

Cavalry: Highly mobile troops who are trained to fight on horseback. They do this on specially trained warhorses.

Tanks (also called “landships”): Large armored mobile vehicles that roll slowly and are able to crush or flatten things in its path, also equipped with large, long cannons and sometimes machine guns.

No Man’s Land: The land between the Allied trenches and the German-led Central Powers trenches.

Carrier Pigeons: A homing pigeon trained to carry messages.

U.S. Army Signal Corps: People who develop and manage communications and information systems for the combined armed forces.

Red Baron: A German fighter pilot. His real name was Manfred von Richthofen and he lived from May 2, 1892 until April 21, 1918 when he was shot down during World War I. He was the top ace flyer of the war with 80 air combat victories between 1916 and 1918. (It only took getting 5 to become an “ace,” which was very hard to do.) He has since become famous all over the world. He is widely known by children from Charles Schulz’s classic *Peanuts* cartoon scene

of Snoopy imagining he is a “flying ace” in a dogfight with the Red Baron from atop his doghouse.

Air Raid: A raid or attack by aircraft.

Mustard Gas: An oily, dangerous liquid used as a chemical warfare agent.

Gas Masks: A masklike device for the face to protect the wearer from a chemical gas attack; it helps to filter the air the wearer breathes in.

Medical Field Hospital: A tent-like structure that is mobile to be able to move around medical staff and equipment near war zones.

Radios: Communication is a big part of war and using radios to communicate with was very new at this time. Though radios were available at the start of the war, they were too big to carry onto the battlefields. But that changed by the end of the war when they started to become more mobile—so that’s when they were mostly used. Long wires were laid down everywhere on the ground, but they were often blown up by bullets and artillery. By the end of the war radios were essential to communicate with soldiers in tanks and aircraft. Almost all land radios were one-way communication, though some aircraft had developed two-way communication at this time.

Hello Girls: Civilian women who were employed by the army to translate between the English and French languages during World War I. They were mainly switchboard operators. They helped improve the communications on the Western Front.

Code Talkers: People who use obscure languages to communicate secretly during wars. In World War I, the Allies used Choctaw Native American Indians to pass information in their own language to confound Germans who were trying to listen in to their communications, helping to put an end to the war.

The Great War (also called “World War I”): This was the first big war that had countries from all over the world get involved. It was the first war in which soldiers used many (back then) brand new war weapons such as tanks, machine guns, mustard gas, and planes. It was the first war where soldiers used radio communication. There were also many new medical inventions at this time, such as gas masks and x-ray machines, to protect soldiers or help the wounded.
