

American Literature
Study Guide - Gunner - Soldier.tgt

Name: _____ Date: _____

Read over the questions and think about the ideas presented in the essay. Then answer each question in sentences or phrases.

1. Why is Steinbeck puzzled by soldiers' reluctance to discuss their battle experiences?

2. How does the body react to the extremes of emotion experienced in battle?

3. During battle, what physical stresses are placed on the body?

4. How do soldiers protect themselves from the emotional and physical stresses of battle?

5. To what other human experience does Steinbeck compare a man's loss of memory about battle?

Answer one of the following questions based on your understanding of the selections. Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper. (20 points)

6. Identify two words or phrases you would use to describe the death of the speaker of "The Death of the Ball Turret Gunner." Explain your choices.

7. Do you agree or disagree with the central assumption or hypothesis of "Why Soldiers Won't Talk"? Give at least two reasons for your opinion.