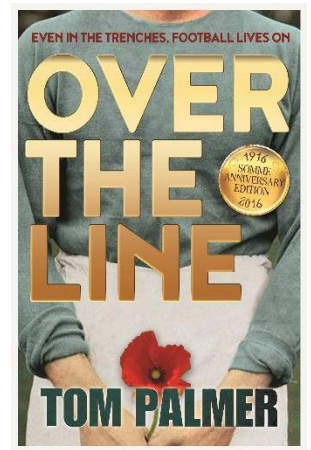


READING QUIZ

Over the Line by Tom Palmer

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It's 1914 and Jack is making his debut as a professional footballer. But the match is marred by a demonstration demanding that the players sign up to do their duty in France. It is not long before Jack is bound for the trenches with the Footballers' Battalion...



From Chapter 1

Do people ever ask what you want to be when you grow up?

What do you say to them?

That you'd like to be a doctor? A singer? A soldier? A vet?

Or do you say, "I want to be a footballer"?

That was my dream when I was a boy. To be a footballer. To play for my country.

And, for me, the dream came true.

Sort of.

So, now I am waiting for the whistle. When that whistle blows, my dream to play for my country will come true. I will go over the line.

But I never dreamed it would be like this

It was the day of my debut as a professional footballer. My dream had come true.

But even when your dream comes true, you still have to keep trying.

Within a minute of kick-off, Fred Bullock passed the ball to me. He was my team captain at Huddersfield Town. I controlled the ball with my left foot, then played it wide to our winger.

So far, so good.

Now it was my duty to get into the penalty area. I was a forward. I was a goal scorer. Our winger would cross the ball soon, so I needed to get up field.

The mud was thick on the pitch, even though the game had only just begun.

A Grimsby defender tracked me as I powered towards the goal. Sid Wheelhouse. His deep-furrowed frown made him look like a bull and he was big too. Big and strong.

The ball came in from the left.

- 1 What point of view is this written from – first, second, third person?
- 2 What sort of question is on the first line of the extract? open/ closed/ direct/ indirect
- 3 Where do you think "the line" he is waiting to go over is?
- 4 What animal does Sid Wheelhouse resemble?
- 5 Which teams are playing against each other?