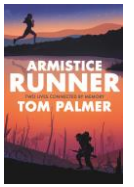


Armistice Runner by Tom Palmer



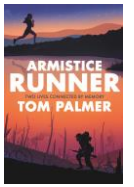
LITERACY & HISTORY RESOURCE : PUPIL'S WORKSHEET TO ADD MISSING PUNCTUATION

Text from chapter Page 158

identify yourself
it was a tired shout but i knew to stick to protocol
i stopped hands up then called back private darby border regiment with a message from captain whitaker
a tin hat appeared with a gaunt grey face beneath it
get down man the voice was louder now
youre in their range of fire
i scrambled down on my backside to see six men in the bunker four of them with their heads or their arms bandaged up one was unconscious a messy wound on his leg exposed to the air a pile of rifles dry on sacking between them
then the smell reached me the disgusting smell of the mans wound it made me want to throw up i could smell his flesh dying on his bones five sets of eyes were on me a wildness about them all
i took a breath captain whitaker asks me to inform you that the ceasefire begins at 1100 hours this morning
silence
five faces looked at me like i was a fool then one man stepped forward i saw from his badge that he was a corporal he looked at me blankly a hint of a smile on his mud and bloodcrusted face



Armistice Runner by Tom Palmer



ceasefire corporal i repeated the armistice was agreed this morning there will be stretcher-bearers and supplies with you by midday your orders are to stay put

i dont know what sort of reaction i expected from these men who were all set to fling themselves at death

maybe cheers and laughter did i expect that

instead they turned to each other and to me and shared silent grim handshakes then one of them fell back against the side of the crater and sobbed

the corporal put his filthy hand on the mans shoulder and stared out across the mud

i was about to head back to confirm to captain whitaker that i had reached the men – and to update him on their condition – when there was the whoosh of a shell coming over it hit the open land id come across

we watched the earth jump then heard the thud

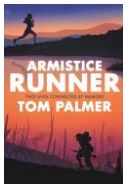
emptying their guns the corporal mused

you be careful out there son

i will sir i said



Armistice Runner by Tom Palmer

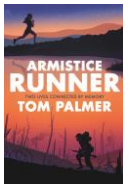


LITERACY & HISTORY RESOURCE : TEACHER'S MISSING PUNCTUATION MODEL ANSWERS

identify yourself
"Identify yourself."
it was a tired shout but i knew to stick to protocol
It was a tired shout. But I knew to stick to protocol.
i stopped hands up then called back private darby border regiment with a message from captain whitaker
I stopped. Hands up. Then called back, "Private Darby, Border Regiment. With a message from Captain Whitaker."
a tin hat appeared with a gaunt grey face beneath it
A tin hat appeared with a gaunt grey face beneath it.
get down man the voice was louder now
"Get down, man," the voice was louder now.
youre in their range of fire
"You're in their range of fire."
i scrambled down on my backside to see six men in the bunker four of them with their heads or their arms bandaged up one was unconscious a messy wound on his leg exposed to the air a pile of rifles dry on sacking between them
I scrambled down on my backside to see six men in the bunker, four of them with their heads or their arms bandaged up. One was unconscious, a messy wound on his leg exposed to the air. A pile of rifles dry on sacking between them.
then the smell reached me the disgusting smell of the mans wound it made me want to throw up i could smell his flesh dying on his bones five sets of eyes were on me a wildness about them all
Then the smell reached me. The disgusting smell of the man's wound. It made me want to throw up. I could smell his flesh dying on his bones. Five sets of eyes were on me. A wildness about them all.
i took a breath captain whitaker asks me to inform you that the ceasefire begins at 1100 hours this morning
I took a breath. "Captain Whitaker asks me to inform you that the ceasefire begins at 1100 hours this morning."
silence
Silence.
five faces looked at me like i was a fool then one man stepped forward i saw from his badge that he was a corporal he looked at me blankly a hint of a smile on his mud and bloodcrusted face
Five faces looked at me like I was a fool. Then one man stepped forward. I saw from his badge that he was a corporal. He looked at me blankly, a hint of a smile on his mud- and blood-crusted face.



Armistice Runner by Tom Palmer

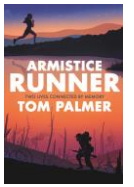


LITERACY & HISTORY RESOURCE : TEACHER'S MISSING PUNCTUATION MODEL ANSWERS cont.

ceasefire corporal i repeated the armistice was agreed this morning there will be stretcher-bearers and supplies with you by midday your orders are to stay put
"Ceasefire, Corporal," I repeated. "The Armistice was agreed this morning. There will be stretcher-bearers and supplies with you by midday. Your orders are to stay put."
i dont know what sort of reaction i expected from these men who were all set to fling themselves at death
I don't know what sort of reaction I expected from these men who were all set to fling themselves at death.
maybe cheers and laughter did i expect that
Maybe cheers and laughter? Did I expect that?
instead they turned to each other and to me and shared silent grim handshakes then one of them fell back against the side of the crater and sobbed
Instead, they turned to each other, and to me, and shared silent grim handshakes. Then one of them fell back against the side of the crater and sobbed.
the corporal put his filthy hand on the mans shoulder and stared out across the mud
The Corporal put his filthy hand on the man's shoulder and stared out across the mud.
i was about to head back to confirm to captain whitaker that i had reached the men – and to update him on their condition – when there was the whoosh of a shell coming over it hit the open land id come across
I was about to head back to confirm to Captain Whitaker that I had reached the men – and to update him on their condition – when there was the whoosh of a shell coming over. It hit the open land I'd come across.
we watched the earth jump then heard the thud
We watched the earth jump, then heard the thud.
emptying their guns the corporal mused
"Emptying their guns," the Corporal mused.
you be careful out there son
"You be careful out there, son."
i will sir i said
"I will, sir," I said.



Armistice Runner by Tom Palmer



LITERACY & HISTORY RESOURCE : MISSING PUNCTUATION TEACHER'S NOTES

It is suggested that the accompanying powerpoint is read through in class first.

This may be an uncomfortable subject area as some pupils may find the horrors of war upsetting, so sensitivity needs to be shown.

This could be used in conjunction with cross-curricula history.

Warm up questions

- When was the First World War? (1914-1918)
- Who were the British Forces fighting and where? (Germany. Across France and Belgium)
- What do we call the various parts in the military forces today depending on where and how they act - on land, (army) sea (navy) air (RAF)
- How is the army organised (local regiments)? What is our local regiment (if you have one?) What do words like private, corporal and captain signify (ranks in the army)
- What was the landscape of the First World War, specifically the Western Front like? (trenches, bunkers, no man's land, barbed wire, mines)
- What were conditions like? (muddy, unsanitary, poor medical facilities)
- How do the army describe time? 1100 hours etc.
- What is a ceasefire? (an agreed stopping of fighting on both sides)
- What sort of weapons did they use in the First World War (rifles, shells, guns, also tanks and reconnaissance planes, zeppelins, bayonettes)

Pupils need to rewrite in the space below the missing punctuation for the text to make sense. The text is missing ...

- capital letters
- full stops
- commas
- apostrophes
- speech marks
- question marks
- hyphens

Mistakes can be identified and corrected together in class (referring back to the original text from the powerpoint), perhaps with different coloured pens.

Teacher's are allowed to point out the use of informal sentence starters like "But..." and edit my text.

