

English literature

The chocolate cream soldier

Q1. Word meanings

1. Officer - work in
2. Genteel - polite
3. Ottoman - a piece of furniture like a large box with a soft top
4. Superciliously - arrogantly
5. Disparagingly - very casually and carelessly
6. Inevitable - unavoidable
7. Grub - food
8. I can stand two days without chewing it much - I can put up with it without much trouble for two days
9. Indignantly - angrily and feeling insulted
10. Ironically - sarcastically
11. Prosaically - in a bored and dull manner
12. Like an operatic tenor - shrieking; in a high-pitched voice
13. Court martialled - tried for a crime in a military court

Q2. Tick the most appropriate options.

1. Bluntschli is
Ans. Swiss
2. Raina feels at ease with Bluntschli because he
Ans. Is not Serbian and therefore not her enemy.
3. Raina is scornful of Bluntschli because
Ans. He prefers chocolates to cartridges even though he is a soldier.
4. Bluntschli says that the lead Bulgarian's attack on the Serbians was
Ans. Unprofessional, because their soldiers were merely slashing their weapons wildly in the air.

Q3. Answer the following questions.

1. *You can tell the young ones by their wildness and their slashing. The old ones come bunched up under the number one guard.*
 - a. Who are the young ones?
Ans. The young ones are those who have no much experience in the battlefield.
 - b. Who are the old ones?
Ans. The old ones are those who knew that they are merely projectiles. And they come bunched up under the number one guard.
 - c. Why do the young ones behave wildly and the old ones come bunched together?
Ans. This brings direct attention to the reference between youth and maturity.

2. *A regular handsome fellow, with flashing eyes and lovely moustache, shouting his war-cry...
We did laugh.*

a. Who is the fellow?

Ans. Sergius Saranoff is referred as the fellow.

b. Who laughed?

Ans. The Serbian army laughed.

c. Why did they laugh?

Ans. The people in the enemy camp nearly burst out with laughter at the sight of him charging in the overly heroic manner. Sergius led charge with much animation and war-cry. In reality, Sergius had committed the gravest mistake of leading his regiment into a suicidal attack.