Name:

“Speaking of Courage”

1. How is this story of life in a small town with no danger, nowhere to go, and no one to talk to just as haunting as the stories of the war itself?
2. What commentary do you believe is being made about what has happened to these young men, and of what has been lost by each of them (as in “Sweetheart of the Song Tra Bong”)?
3. Is Norman Bowker to blame for leaving Kiowa behind?
4. Assume the title does NOT hold any irony, where is courage expressed in this vignette?
5. What is the more difficult problem for Norman – the lack of the silver star or the death of Kiowa? Which does he consider more and why?
6. What effect is the narrative point of view in “Speaking of Courage”?

In the space provided for “Speaking of Courage” answer the following question (in complete sentences and with specific references to the text): Merriam Webster defines courage as “mental or moral strength to [venture](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/venture#h1), persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty”; how does this vignette explore this idea and to what effect?

For the following poem, annotate and answer the question (in the space provided for “How to Tell a True War Story” on the green sheet) – WHAT DO THE SOLDIERS CARRY? Use complete sentences and refer to the text.

“The Man He Killed”

*by Thomas Hardy*

Had he and I but met

By some old ancient inn,

We should have set us down to wet

Right many a nipperkin! *[small cup of adult beverage]*

But ranged as infantry, 5

And staring face to face,

I shot at him as he at me,

And killed him in his place.

I shot him dead because—

Because he was my foe, 10

Just so: my foe of course he was;

That's clear enough; although

He thought he'd 'list, perhaps,

Off-hand like – just as I—

Was out of work – had sold his traps— 15

No other reason why.

Yes; quaint and curious war is!

You shoot a fellow down

You'd treat, if met where any bar is,

Or help to half-a-crown. 20