

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period _____

The Things They Carried
Vocabulary # 1

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| 1. foxhole | hole in the ground to protect soldiers against enemies |
| 2. perimeter | a defended boundary of a military position |
| 3. platoon | a subdivision of a company of soldiers commanded by a lieutenant; group of people acting together |
| 4. volition | the power of using one's own will; voluntarily |
| 5. bayonet | a blade that is attached to the muzzle of a rifle |
| 6. shrapnel | fragments of a bomb thrown around after an explosion |
| 7. arsenal | collection of weapons |
| 8. stash | to store something safely and secretly |
| 9. aggression | hostile or violent behavior |
| 10. imperative | crucial; very important; urgent |
| 11. infantry | foot soldiers |
| 12. eviscerate | remove contents inside a body |
| 13. bewilderment | to become confused |

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The Things They Carried
Vocabulary # 2

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| 1. definitive | final; ultimate |
| 2. civility | courtesy; politeness |
| 3. improbable | not likely to be true |
| 4. vulnerable | susceptible to physical or emotional attack |
| 5. condolence | expression of sympathy |
| 6. illumination | light |
| 7. infatuation | to have short-lived passion or admiration for |
| 8. chronology | arrangement of events in the order they occurred |
| 9. translucent | allowing light to pass through |
| 10. blatant | done openly; very obvious |

"The Things They Carried"

Glossary of Military Terms Used in the Story:

AO:	Area of Operation
PFC.:	Private First Class
RTO:	Radio and Telephone Operator
PRC-25:	Pronounced "prick 25"
M & Ms:	From research on other pages, I had been led to believe that "M & Ms" was a sarcastic term for medical supplies, but I now believe that I am wrong. I am not sure of the entire term, but I believe that one of the Ms refers to morphine which would be consistent with O'Brien's tone and context when his narrator suggests it is for more serious wounds.
Psy Ops:	Psychological Warfare (Ops = operations)
R&R:	Rest and Relaxation
SOP:	Standard Operating Procedure
US KIA:	United States Killed in Action
USO:	United Service Organization (Volunteer Entertainment and Morale)
VC:	Vietcong