

Land of the brave



> Zoom in

Part 1

1 The setting.

a. When? 18th century. Interwar period. Late 20th century.

► Explain your choice:

b. Where? The characters are in

2 What has Damien come for?

To say goodbye. To say hello. To wish Sinead a happy birthday.

3 The young men have been... holding a political meeting.

working in the fields.

playing hurling (a traditional Irish sport).

► Explain your choice:

4 Match these expressions from the dialogues with their translations.

poxy	•	ouvrier agricole
ironmonger	•	des devinettes
farm labourer	•	minables
grin	•	sourire
riddles	•	quincaillier
strip off	•	se déshabiller

5 Choose the right verb to describe the soldiers' arrival.

They... walk in. storm in. climb in. drift in.

► Explain your choice:

6 When the British soldiers arrive, the... slow swift ... camera movements emphasise (*accentuent*):

.....

7 a. Fill in each gap with one word.

The "Defence of the Realm act" states that all are
..... This includes the young men's

b. Saying this, the sergeant implies that the soldiers' official mission is only to:

- break the law. change the law. enforce the law.


8 The sergeant orders one of his soldiers to take down the men's, that is to say their and

9 Pick the adjectives that best describe the sergeant. Justify your choices. 

- quiet friendly loud-mouthed
 open-minded insulting rude
 respectful honourable clever
 brutal powerless hateful

10 Pick the adjectives that best describe Micheail [mɪ'ha:ɪ]. Justify your choices. 

- submissive proud relaxed
 reckless/imprudent defiant brave
 shy rebellious obedient
 stupid respectful

11 What do Micheail's mother and Damien try to do? Why? 

Part 2

12 Background music.

a. Tick the musical instruments you recognise.

- guitar piano accordion flute double bass (*contrebasse*)
 trumpet triangle drum bagpipes (*cornemuse*)

b. Say what their sounds evoke in you. 

13 Describe the landscape using the following phrases and words. 

The men are advancing in... • We can see • We can't see... • We can hear...

rocky • hilly • dreary [dri:əri] (*morne*) • marsh • marshy (*marécageux*) • steps • tread [tred] (*fouler/marcher sur*) • terrain [tɛrɛm]

14 What are the men actually doing?

They are, using their sticks as if they were

15 "Where's the rest of that shagging section?"

Choose a synonym for "shagging" in the question Finbar asks:

- excellent.
 inefficient.
 small.

16 Finbar asks some of the boys to go because in a real situation they would

In this exercise he would have lost % of the men.

17 Why is this a problem? They are "not"

18 Finbar warns them: "[If] the Brits you they are going to you.

"[If] the Brits you they are going to you."

> Look back

19 Do you think there is a link between the two extracts? Explain. 

20 What can you deduce about Damien's presence in the second part? 