

Warmer – Discussion

Work in pairs. Look at the sentence below. Do you agree or disagree? Explain why.

War is always wrong.

Task 1 – The soldier and the conscientious objector

Work alone. Read the introduction and match the phrase to the correct definition.



Bert and Philip Brocklesby were brothers. Philip was a soldier in the First World War and fought in northern France. However, Bert was a conscientious objector – he refused to fight in the war because of his strong religious beliefs and so he was sent to prison.

This is the story of the two brothers.

A **conscientious objector** is someone who:

- a. can't fight because they are too ill.
- b. volunteers to fight.
- c. won't fight for religious or political reasons.

Task 2 – Vocabulary and picture matching

a. *Work in pairs. Look at the pictures and decide if they relate to Bert or Philip. Why?*



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b. *Match the words and meanings*

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|--------------------------|--|
| 1. sign up (v) | a. put in prison |
| 2. injured (adj) | b. legal process to decide if someone is innocent or guilty of a crime |
| 3. trial (n) | c. physically hurt |
| 4. tribunal (n) | d. to protect someone or something from being attacked |
| 5. recruiting office (n) | e. to offer to do something, without being forced to |
| 6. volunteer (v) | f. a group of people who are chosen to solve legal problems |
| 7. imprison (v) | g. a place where people go to volunteer to fight |
| 8. defend (v) | h. to offer to fight in a war |

c. *Work in pairs. Look at the pictures again and discuss the questions.*

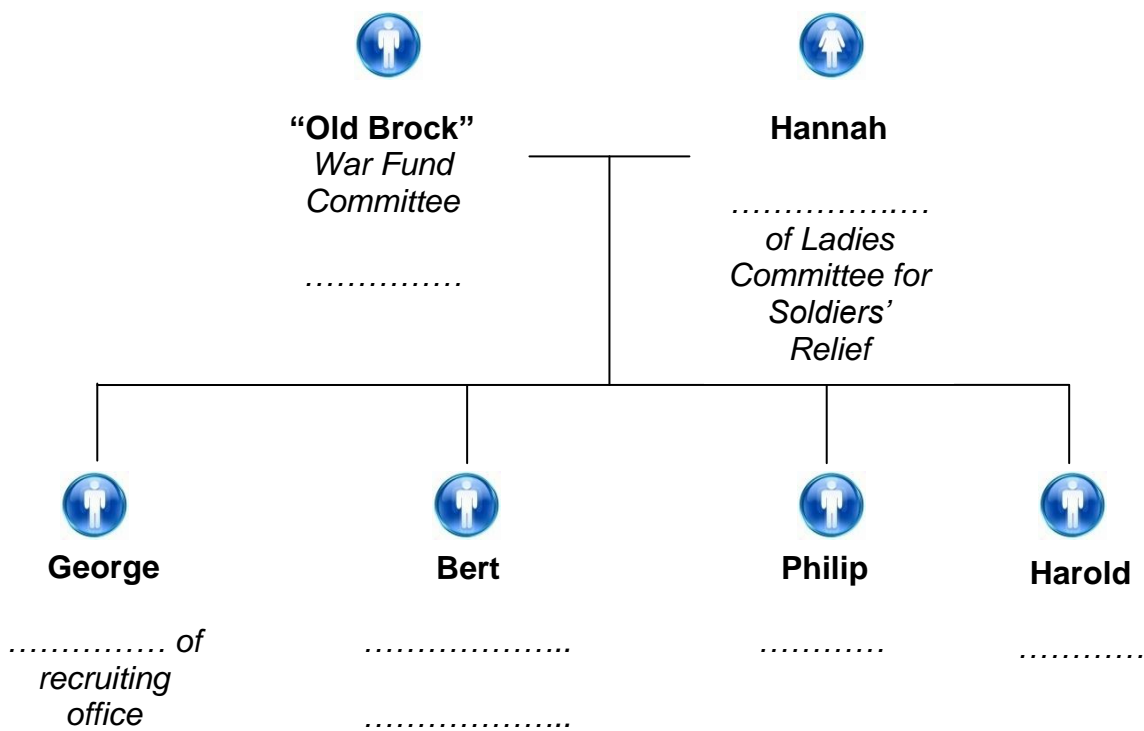
- Which of the words could you use with each picture?
- Do you think the second picture shows a positive or negative attitude to conscientious objectors? Why?

Task 3 – Listening: background information

Listen to the information about the Brocklesby family and complete the family tree with the words in the box. Write the work they did **in the war**.



soldier	soldier	conscientious objector	manager	member	manager
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Task 4 – Prediction

Using the vocabulary you learned in Task 2, discuss this question.

What do you think Bert and Philip's experiences in the war were like?

Task 5 – Reading 2 – the brothers

a. *Work in two groups. Group A: read about Bert Brocklesby. Group B: read about Philip Brocklesby.*

Answer the questions about your person.

1. What did he do before the war?
2. Did he sign up? Why?
3. What did he do in France?
4. Did he change his opinion of fighting during the war? How do you know?
5. What did he do after the war?
6. What do you think was his most important experience during the war? Why?

b. *Now work with someone from the other group. Tell your partner about what you've read.*

Task 6 – Reactions to the text


Work in pairs and discuss these questions.

1. Do you think that Bert did the right thing? Why?
2. Which brother do you think was braver? Why?
3. Do you think people should be allowed to refuse to fight because of their beliefs? Why?


Task 7 – Role play

Work in groups of three and choose a role. Spend a few minutes preparing what you're going to say.


When you're ready, role play the interview.



Journalist: Hello Bert and Phil. Thanks for agreeing to meet me. I'm very excited to hear your fascinating stories ...



Philip: Hello. Thanks for asking to speak to us ...



Bert: Hello. Thanks for your invitation ...