

Author: _____

Preface

1) Describe the medal this grandfather is showing to his grandchildren.

2) Who was Ira Hayes? _____

3) Where did both of these men fight?

4) What was this grandfather's role in the war? _____

5) What was the Navaho name for:

South America _____

Alaska _____

Great Britain _____

Germany _____

Japan _____

6) What was a code talker?

7) What did code talkers do?

8) Why was the code talker job such a huge secret during WWII? _____

Chapter 1

1) Why was Kii Yazhi sent away by his parents?

2) Who took him away? _____

3) Why did the Navahos fight the Mexicans?

4) Why did the Americans make war on the Navaho Nation?

5) What was the Long Walk?

6) Why was the “Long Walk” so tragic for the Navahos?

7) Why were the Navahos allowed to return to their land after the Long Walk?

8) What does Uncle tell Kii Yazhi about his schooling and its purpose?

Chapter 2

1) Why didn't Uncle say goodbye to Kii Yazhi?

2) How were the children dresses on this important day?

3) What did the children say to each other when they all arrived at the mission?

4) What does Kii Yazhi say about the language differences between the children?

- 5) What was funny about the way the white man spoke to the children?

- 6) Describe Jacob Benally:

- 7) What is the first rule of the new school?

- 8) What one word were the children taught the first day of school? _____
- 9) Where did Jacob Benally work at the mission?

- 10) Who was the large red-faced, red-headed man the children listened to the first day of school? _____
- 11) How would you describe his view of the Navaho?

Chapter 3

- 1) What did the children have to do the first day of school?

- 2) Why was this action a problem for the children?

- 3) What happened to the children's clothing and jewelry when they were forced to remove it? _____
- 4) Describe the clothing the children were forced to wear.

- 5) What was the final act of the school of the first day?

- 6) What was shocking about the names selected for the children?

- 7) What was the new name given to Kii Yazhi?

Chapter 4

- 1) What motto were the children taught to read first?

2) What cruel thing did Mr. Reamer do to Kii Yazhi?

Why? _____

3) How old was Kii Yazhi when he started school?

4) How was defiant behavior punished by Mr. O'Sullivan?

5) What special punishment was given to John Roanhorse?

6) How did affect him? _____

7) How did Ned (Kii Yazhi) behave during school hours?

8) How did he behave when he was alone with other Navaho children?

Chapter 5

1) Who was Jim Thorpe?

2) How tall did Ned grow to be? _____

3) What did Ned hope to be when he grew up?

4) What was the result of the paper Ned wrote?

No Chapter 6 questions

Chapter 7

1) How old was Ned on December 7, 1941 _____ Where was he?

2) Who were the Axis Powers?

3) In April of 1942 what message was received from the Navaho tribal chairman?

4) How did the Navaho boys react to the Marine recruiter's uniform?

5) What type of men were the Marines looking for?

6) How did Ned try to get around the rules of the Marine recruiter?

7) How did his parents react to his request for them to vouch for his age?

8) How large was the first Navaho platoon who developed the secret code?

Chapter 8

- 1) Why did Johnny Manuelito return to the reservation after 4 months?

- 2) How many of the first recruits from the Navaho reservation “washed out” of boot camp? _____
- 3) How long did Ned have to wait for his special ceremony to take place?

- 4) Describe this Blessingway ceremony.

- 5) How long did the ceremony last? _____
- 6) What was the final act of the Blessingway ceremony? (p.56)

No Chapter 9 questions

Chapter 10

- 1) Why was Fort Defiance bitter sweet as a place for Ned?

- 2) What item in the hygiene kit was unneeded by the Navaho men? _____
- 3) What special qualification did Ned receive in boot camp?

- 4) What skill in boot camp caused Ned a problem? _____
- 5) How did Ned pass the first water class?

- 6) What important understanding about people did Ned gain in boot camp?

Chapter 11

- 1) Why were Navaho Marines such tough and determined soldiers?

- 2) How did Navahos behave in battle when they were wounded?

- 3) Where did the Marine Navahos go the day after graduation from boot camp?

- 4) Why was the Navaho language perfect for use as a secret code?

- 5) Which man is given credit for the idea to use the Navaho language as a code?

- 6) Who actually created the secret code used by the Navaho Code Talkers?

No Chapter 12 questions

Chapter 13

- 1) How long did it take for the American forces to capture Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands? _____
- 2) Why did Ned go to Hawaii? _____
- 3) What division was Ned assigned to? _____
- 4) Who was his commander? _____
- 5) Where was Johnny Manuelito sent? _____
- 6) Who was assigned to replace Johnny as an instructor of the Navaho Code Talkers? _____
- 7) Where any of the code talkers promoted in rank during the war? _____
- 8) What was Ned afraid of in California?

- 9) Why was he so afraid as an Indian man?

- 10) How did the Navahos perform their work in the field? (p.90)

- 11) During this time what was happening to the Indian code?

- 12) What was the great benefit of the Navaho code in battle situations?

Chapter 14

- 1) What is the tradition of the Navaho toward dead bodies? _____
- 2) Write the Bushido Code:
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____

Chapter 15

- 1) What special knowledge did the Navaho have concerning survival in the desert?

- 2) Who went back to camp to get more water for the white Marines?

- 3) Where was Ned and division headed? _____
- 4) What was the weather like in the Solomon Islands? _____
- 5) What disease was a problem in the jungle? _____
- 6) How did the native Solomon Island Indians feel about Japanese invaders?

- 7) What did Ned have in common with the Solomon Island Indians?

- 8) What attacked the Marines as they landed on the Solomon Islands?

Chapter 16

- 1) What are “zekes”? _____
- 2) When was D-Day for Bougainville, Solomon Island? _____
- 3) What song did a man sing as he waited for the battle to begin?

- 4) What did Ned do as he waited for the action of Battle?

- 5) What did the naval ships do to Blue Beach before the Marines invaded?

Chapter 17

- 1) Why did Ned carry the large TBX radio in front of him?

- 2) Which friend of Ned’s was injured in the landing party?

- 3) Blue Beach One was the worst place to land the Marines. Why?

- 4) How many Japanese soldiers did Ned see in his first battle? _____

Chapter 18

- 1) Why was the volcano so interesting to Ned?

- 2) Bougainville’s climate is _____
- 3) How did Ned and the other Navahos treat the malaria medicine?

- 4) What happened to Harry Tsosie?

- 5) What is special about November 10th?

- 6) Ned’s birthday was _____ Who gave him this birthday and why?

- 7) What are C-rations?

- 8) Why were the Marines told not to take Japanese souvenirs?

- 9) What are the 4 rules/ orders for sending messages?
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
- 10) What happened to the Japanese snipers when the earthquake occurred?

- 11) What do Seabees do?

- 12) What famous person was on the beach and in the same branch of the military as Ned? _____
- 13) Why didn't Ned go to meet him and shake his hand? _____
- 14) Who wrote to Ned from home? _____

Chapter 19

- 1) Where did the code talkers go to learn updates on the code?

- 2) What was the first impression of the Marine officers when they got a Navaho code talker? _____
- 3) How did this attitude change?

- 4) Why was there an alcohol problem in the Marines?

Chapter 20

- 1) Which task force was Ned assigned to in Operation Forager?

- 2) What is a banzai attack? _____
- 3) Why did the Japanese fight so hard for Saipan?

- 4) What was so sad about the civilian Japanese on Saipan?

- 5) What did the Indians use a slingshot for? _____

Chapter 21

- 1) What creatures did Ned fear the most on Eniwetok Island as the 3rd Marine Division waited for orders to take Guam?

- 2) What had Admiral Conolly learned from the fights for other islands in the Pacific? _____

- 3) What did Conolly do to correct this mistake?

- 4) Why was the Guam win so important to the Marines?

- 5) Who were the Chamorros? _____
- 6) How were the Chamorros treated by the Japanese?

- 7) Copy the last 3 lines on page 148 below-

- 8) How do Navahos point at things? _____
- 9) What time did the Japanese like to attack? _____
- 10) Why can't Ned remember the details of the midnight attack that killed Johnson Housewood, a code talker?

- 11) What Navaho event does Ned compare the story of the Chamorros to?

- 12) Who was little Johnny? (p.155)

- 13) Charlie Begay walked into an ambush, what happened to him after that event?

Chapter 22

- 1) Where did the Marines get their battle vehicles?

- 2) What injury did Ned sustain and where did it happen?

- 3) What is "battle fatigue"?

- 4) Why did the Navahos understand battle fatigue so well? (p.161)

- 5) What 3 things did the legendary Monster Slayer fail to kill?
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____

Chapter 23

- 1) On Pavavu Island what additional disease did the Marines have to suffer?

- 2) What insect carried this disease? _____ How did they try to control the insect population on Pavavu? _____

- 3) What did the Frogmen do in WWII?

- 4) How did the code talkers help them?

- 5) What are kamikazes?

- 6) Why didn't the Americans back home know about the kamikazes?

- 7) What was each kamikaze pilot given when he volunteered to fly one of these missions? _____
- 8) What does the word kamikaze mean? _____
- 9) What did the Japanese believe about the kamikaze event from their history?

- 10) Were any large Allied ships ever hit by Kamikazes?

- 11) What were the 2 plans to defeat the Japanese? (p.169-170)
 1. _____
 2. _____
- 12) What other Indian tribes were represented in the Marines on Pavavu Island?

Chapter 24

- 1) Why was Iwo Jima needed by the U.S.?

- 2) Why was Iwo Jima so difficult to assault and take from the Japanese?

- 3) Who was General Kuribayashi?

- 4) What were 'sennimbari'??

- 5) What did the Japanese believe about sennimbari?

- 6) Of what Lakota item did these sennimbari remind the Indian Marines?

- 7) How do we know the sennimbari failed?

Chapter 25

- 1) Why didn't 5 months of bombs dropped on Iwo Jima kill all the Japanese before the Marines landed? _____

- 2) Why were the Marines so angry at the Japanese military government when they found the food supplies in the caves on Iwo Jima after the island was taken?

- 3) What did each Marine get to eat before they went into battle?

- 4) Why did Ned not eat his big breakfast before combat?

- 5) What did he do with the food? _____
- 6) What do the words Iwo Jima mean? _____
- 7) Why was Iwo Jima so hot and steam-filled? _____

Chapter 26

- 1) What sound does a bullet make when it hits a human body?

- 2) Why had the Japanese waited patiently for the Marines to land and climb up the beach? _____
- 3) What odors does Ned remember from Iwo Jima?

- 4) Why didn't the Marines use the trails to climb the slopes of Iwo Jima?

- 5) Did Ned see the famous flag-raising?

- 6) Which Indian tribe was represented in the flag-raising on Iwo Jima?

- 7) What is the story about Jimmy Gleason, the Navaho code talker?

- 8) Why didn't the Japanese surrender Iwo Jima when they knew the fight was hopeless?

- 9) Why is friendship between soldiers so difficult and a very special bond?

- 10) What happened to Georgia Boy on Iwo Jima?

- 11) In the second and most famous flag-raising on Iwo Jima, which Indian tribe is represented? _____
- 12) Why did Ira Hayes have drinking problem?

Chapter 27

- 1) How did many Japanese people feel after the loss of Iwo Jima?

- 2) Why didn't the Japanese surrender? _____
- 3) The kamikaze attackers on Okinawa were allowed to get drunk before they took off to fight. Why?

- 4) Who was Tokyo Rose?

- 5) How many days did it take to defeat the Japanese on Okinawa? _____
- 6) What did the Thought Police do in Japan?

- 7) What did grieving Japanese fathers send in packages to Emperor Hirohito in the last stage of the war? _____
- 8) Why did the fathers of young dead soldiers do this?

- 9) Did the Emperor see these objects? _____ Why?

- 10) Who held the real power in Japan?

- 11) What message made Ned cry when he received the report?

Chapter 28

- 1) Which two Japanese cities were bombed by the Allied forces?

- 2) What did Ned and the other code talkers do when they decoded the word that Japan wanted to surrender?

Chapter 29

- 1) Why did the military keep the code talkers on duty after the end of the war?

- 2) How did the code talkers sent to Japan describe what they witnessed after the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki?

- 3) What other wars did the Navaho code talkers serve in years later?

- 4) Why did some of the Navaho code talkers stay in New Zealand and Australia after the war? _____
- 5) Why was there no information on a specialty on the Navaho Code Talkers discharge papers? _____
- 6) How did this secrecy hurt the code talkers when they returned home?

- 7) What shocking incident occurred when Ned was returning to the reservation after the war?

- 8) How did Ned react to this cruelty?

- 9) What did Ned do when he returned from the war?

- 10) What happened to Ned shortly after he returned from combat which was an indication of his wounded spirit?

- 11) What action did his family take to help him heal his mind and body?

- 12) How was the G.I. Bill unfair to the Navahos?

- 13) What year were the Navahos given permission to discuss their wartime activities in WWII? _____
- 14) What was the result of the declassification of the code talkers?

Author's Note Section

- 1) How long have the Navahos been in the Southwest United States?

- 2) What other Indian group are they linked to by language similarities?

- 3) In the Four Corners region, what natural elements form the traditional Navaho Hogan? _____
- 4) How did the arrival of the Spanish in America upset the natural balance in the Southwest U.S.?

- 5) Who was Kit Carson and what did he do?

6) What is special about the Navaho nation today?

7) Did the author of Code Talkers serve during WWII?

8) What tribe is the author of the book from? _____

9) Did the author invent any of the information in this book?

Chapter 3 Code Talkers cont.

1) What did the children have to do the first day of school?

2) Why was this action a problem for the children?

3) What happened to the childrens' clothing and jewelry when they were forced to remove it?

4) Describe the clothing the students were forced to wear.

5) What was the final act of the school on the first day?

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2) Who were the Axis Powers? _____, _____,

3) In April of 1942 what message was received from the Navaho tribal chairman?

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6) How did Ned try to get around the rules of the Marine recruiter?

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Chapter 8

1) Why did Johnny Manuelito return to the reservation after 4 months?

2) How many of the first recruits from the Navaho reservation “washed out” of boot camp? _____

3) What aspects of Navaho Indian daily life were expected in boot camp training?

Chapter 9

1) What requirement did Ned’s parents make before he was allowed to join the Marines?

2) What church did most of the Navaho attend? _____

3) How long did Ned have to wait for his special ceremony to take place?

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4) What is the Blessingway ceremony like?

P.54 _____

5) How long did the ceremony last? _____

6) What was the final act of the Blessingway ceremony? P.56

Chapter 10

1) Why was Fort Defiance bitter sweet as a place for Ned?

2) What item in the hygiene kit was unneeded by the Navaho men? _____

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No chapter 12 questions