

Reference to Content -

It was 1914, the first year of world war I. The war had reached an impasse by winter. The soldiers on both sides were tired of the deaths and destruction that claimed many lives.

a) Which world war is being talked about here?

Ans- Here, it is being talked about the World War I, in 1914.

b) Why were the soldiers tired?

Ans- The soldiers were tired of all the destructions and deaths that claimed many lives.

c) Supply the meaning of 'impasse'.

Ans- The meaning of 'impasse' is 'a difficult situation that is in which no improvement is possible due to disagreement'.

Answer the questions -

- ① What strange and wonderful event happened on Christmas eve?
- ② How did the German soldiers begin the Christmas celebrations? How did the British respond?
- ③ Why do you think the war reached an impasse by winter?
- ④ Explain 'one human episode among all atrocities that have stained the memory of the war.'
- ⑤ What message does the writer ~~give~~ want to give through the story 'Christmas Truce'.

Answers -

- ① The English and German soldiers celebrated Christmas together and that too, without any approval from their higher-ups. This was the strange and wonderful event happened on Christmas eve.

- ② The German soldiers began the Christmas celebrations by planting Christmas trees on their front-line trenches and by singing 'Stille Nacht'. The British responded by singing ~~from~~ from the other side of the no-man's land by singing 'The first Noel' and 'O Come, All Ye Faithful'. The Germans joined in by singing the Latin version of the song 'Adeste Fideles'.
- ③ The war reached an impasse by winter because neither had the two sides reached any agreement nor had one of the sides secured a clear victory over the other.
- ④ ~~The~~ It was the first time that in the history of war that the soldiers of opposite sides joined hands and celebrated ^{together} during a truce.
- ⑤ The Christmas Truce of 1914 is an incredible testament to what humanity can overcome. In a time where the world was at war - when killing and warfare were the daily occupation of hundreds of thousands of men - those most involved and entrenched in the worst ~~of~~ ^{of} circumstances decided to take a stand for humanity. The soldiers of 1914 tell us about the choice we can make to see others

as human who matter like we matter -
even if they're our enemies. Like the soldiers
of 1914 we can choose to stand for humanity
we can choose to destroy and end the
plague of dehumanization. When we remember
this choice, we ~~also~~ realize that we are
capable enough to make the most of future,
and also learn that 'Humanity can conquer
the worst of circumstances!'