

Choose a key moment from *War* and create an alternative version of the scene as a comic strip. Think about one thing that could happen differently. How would this change the scene? What might the characters say, do or feel?



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At the beginning of *War*, Kat’s life is full of ordinary things: family, friends, home and freedom. When the war begins, her world changes quickly.

Compare Kat’s life before the invasion and after the war begins. Think carefully about what changes and what stays important to her.

PART OF KAT’S LIFE	BEFORE THE WAR	AFTER THE WAR BEGINS
Home		
Family		
Food		
School/ Learning		
Safety		
Freedom		
Feelings		

Which change had the biggest impact on Kat? Explain your answer.



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CHILDREN HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- feel safe and protected
- live with their family
- have food and clean water
- have shelter and a safe place to live
- go to school and learn
- share their thoughts, feelings and ideas



CHALLENGE

Choose one moment from the story where a child's rights are affected. Explain how the moment helps the reader understand the impact of war on children.

[illegible]

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Dear Diary,





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WAR

EIOIN COLFER ANDREW DONKIN

ILLUSTRATED BY GIOVANNI RIGANO

WAR

JOHN COLFER ANDREW DONKIN



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In *War*, Adam is a young soldier, but he does not feel free to write the truth in his letters home. He knows that someone else might read his words before they reach his family. Imagine Adam is writing a letter to his sister, Helena. On the surface, his letter should sound calm and ordinary. However, hidden inside the letter, Adam wants to tell Helena how he really feels.



ADAM'S LETTER SHOULD:

- sound like a normal letter to his sister
- include some ordinary details about daily life
- hide a secret message or feeling
- show that Adam is frightened, homesick or unsure about the war
- be careful enough that a censor might not notice the truth

CHOOSE ONE HIDDEN MESSAGE METHOD:

FIRST LETTER MESSAGE

The first letter of each sentence spells out Adam's secret message.

Example:

Hopefully, I will be home before too long.
Everyone here is keeping busy.
Let Mum know I am eating well.
Please look after yourself.

Hidden message: HELP

CAPITAL LETTER MESSAGE

Some capital letters inside the letter spell out Adam's secret message.

Example:

I am trying to stay brave, but I miss
Helena, Mum and Dad mOre than I
can say. SoMeTimes I drEam about
the farm.

Hidden message: HOME

Before you begin, decide Adam's secret message.

It could be something like:

- I am scared.
- I miss you.
- I want to come home.
- Do not believe everything you hear.
- This war is wrong.
- Help me.



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WAR

EIOIN COLFER ANDREW DONKIN

JOHN COLFER ANDREW DONKIN

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

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WAR

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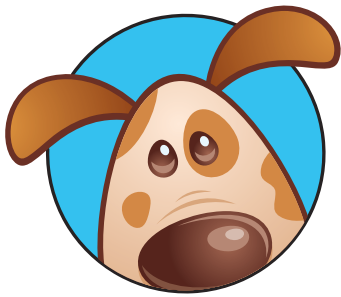
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