

The Red Badge of Courage

Stephen Crane

What happens to Henry's idea of courage once he sees brave-looking men run?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	The line breaks and Henry runs
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FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION	Chapter VI
START	A man near him who up to this time had been working feverishly at his rifle suddenly stopped and ran with howls.
END	He ran like a blind man.
PASSAGE ID	sec-rbc-01

THE MOVE

Track panic as it replaces a character's earlier self-story

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Henry has imagined courage as a stable personal quality, but seeing apparently brave soldiers suddenly flee turns courage into something unstable and contagious. Panic replaces the story he had been telling himself about how soldiers behave.

MARK

Underline the details that made the men seem committed or brave before the break. Circle the first signs of flight. Star the moment Henry stops evaluating others and joins the movement himself.

NOTICE

- What did Henry expect brave soldiers to do under pressure?
- How does watching another man run change what feels possible or acceptable?
- Why does panic spread faster once the first apparently courageous men break?

THINK

Answer provisionally: What happens to Henry's idea of courage once he sees brave-looking men run? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: What happens to Henry's idea of courage once he sees brave-looking men run? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	Henry's idea of courage becomes unstable when men who looked brave suddenly flee. Their behavior makes panic seem normal and gives him a new story about what soldiers do under pressure.
EVIDENCE	Use the men's apparent steadiness before the break, the first flight, and Henry's own movement with the panic.
WATCH FOR	Do not say Henry logically changes his definition. Panic spreads through observation and identification faster than deliberate reasoning.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

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START ANCHOR	A man near him who up to this time had been working feverishly at his rifle suddenly stopped and ran with howls.
END ANCHOR	He ran like a blind man.

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OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Underline the details that made the men seem committed or brave before the break. Circle the first signs of flight. Star the moment Henry stops evaluating others and joins the movement himself.
2. NOTICE - What did Henry expect brave soldiers to do under pressure? How does watching another man run change what feels possible or acceptable? Why does panic spread faster once the first apparently courageous men break?
3. THINK - Answer provisionally: What happens to Henry's idea of courage once he sees brave-looking men run?
4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.