

Saving Private Ryan

1. When was the opening scene-taking place? What country was being invaded? Why was this a significant event in the war?
2. What were your thoughts after viewing scenes at Omaha Beach? Was this consistent with your earlier images of war as depicted in other movies? If they were different, please explain.
3. What were the soldiers thinking when they finally had a moment to reflect on the ordeal of storming the beach and completing their mission?
4. What leadership characteristics did you see in Captain Miller? How do you think his occupation back home contributed to his leadership abilities? How would you describe his effectiveness as a leader?
5. What do you think about the decision to send a company of men into hostile territory to save one man? What do you think about the rationale used by the general who gave the order? What do you think about the rationale used by Captain Miller to help keep his troops focused on the mission?

6. How did you feel about Captain Miller's decision to stop and storm the radar tower and bunker? Do you think he would have done something differently if he had known the outcome?
7. Why did Miller decide to let the German soldier go free? Was this a good decision?
8. What are your thoughts on the following quote from the movie?
"Just know, every man I kill the further away from home I feel."
9. Why were some of the soldiers resentful of Private Ryan? When they finally found Private Ryan did their opinions change? Why?
10. Do you think the mission to save Private Ryan was justified?