

# Pack Up Your Troubles .....

9 During the First World War, songs were very important  
19 since they helped boost morale and helped people to cope  
25 with the emotional strain of war.

35 Below is an extract from the popular marching song 'Pack  
47 Up Your Troubles in Your Old Kit Bag' by brothers Felix and  
49 George Powell.

58 Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag,

62 And smile, smile, smile!

70 While you've a **Lucifer** to light your **fag**,

75 Smile boys, that's the style!

80 What's the use of worrying?

84 It never was worthwhile,

94 So, pack up your troubles in your old kit bag,

98 And smile, smile, smile!

## 99 Glossary:

108 **Lucifer:** A popular make of matches at the time.

117 **fag:** British slang for 'cigarette' used during this era.

# Quick Questions

••• 1. Who wrote the song 'Pack Up Your Troubles in Your Old Kit Bag'?

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••• 2. Explain what the phrase 'boost morale' means.

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••• 3. What do the songwriters mean by the phrase 'Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag'?

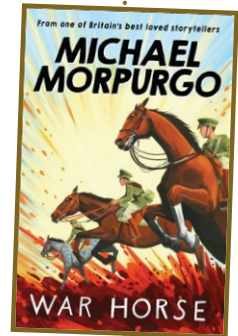
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••• 4. How would you describe the mood of this song? Explain your answer.

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## 99 Glossary:

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# Answers

- 1. Who wrote the song 'Pack Up Your Troubles in Your Old Kit Bag'?

**The song was written by Felix and George Powell.**

- 2. Explain what the phrase 'boost morale' means.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: The phrase 'boost morale' means to make people feel more cheerful and confident.**

- 3. What do the songwriters mean by the phrase 'Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag'?

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think they mean that soldiers going to war should try to cast their worries aside and remain positive, if they can.**

- 4. How would you describe the mood of this song? Explain your answer.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I would describe the mood as uplifting and cheerful. The song would have helped lift spirits during a difficult time.**

