to their prisoners. Now he thinks it would be better because the Japanese do not look like Americans; it would be easier to kill them than to kill Germans. He changed his attitude when he saw that the German prisoners looked similar to them.

17 a stupid b a brother c to win the war d wrong ... what he looks like e enough

18 (Two of the following decisions): to take the machine gun in the hole; to let the prisoner go; to tell his men about his civilian life

19–27 Open answers

**Communicative activities**

Activities after reading the book

Open answers

Activities after reading a section

Open answers

Activities after reading the book

(a) Saving Private Ryan Quiz

1 John 2 Iowa 3 map-maker / translator 4 Fritz 5 Caparzo 6 Frederick 7 Mickey Mouse 8 English teacher 9 Ramelle 10 Reiben and Upham

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**Student's activities**

Activities before reading the book

Book cover

(a) Possible feelings adjectives

frightened / afraid / scared / terrified / lonely / tired / exhausted / confused / homesick / aggressive / hungry / thirsty

Possible appearance adjectives

dirty / untidy / unshaven / thin

(b) War image

war as a lonely, frightening experience

Activities while reading the book

CHAPITERS 1–4

Chapter 1

Possible answers

(a) Private Ryan and his wife/One of the men who set out to save Private Ryan (and his wife).

(b) To pay respects to dead friends or ex-comrades

(c) She may not know the full story of what happened to her husband in the war.

(d) He might be sad that the younger generation knew nothing about the sacrifices of previous generations. He may be pleased that his grandson does not have to think about war – this might be a sign that the war had been worth fighting.

Chapter 2

(a) Mellish/seasick pills/he is pessimistic about leaving France alive

(b) Sarge/the soldiers being seasick/he is a cynical, hardened soldier

(c) Briggs/the number of soldiers that are going to die/realistic

(d) Jackson/the soldiers are about to arrive in France and maybe die/he is a religious man

(e) Miller/giving advice to soldiers as they land in France/caring, practical leader

(f) Mellish/talking about the German onslaught as they reach the beach/ironic

(g) Every American soldier/the possibility of being killed/fear

Chapter 3

(a) 5  
(b) 4

(c) 6

(d) 2

(e) 7

(f) 3

(g) 1

Chapter 4

(a) False. He was shot again

(b) True. They blew a hole in the wire on top of the wall

(c) False. German shoots an American soldier

(d) True

(e) False. They are all killed

(f) True

CHAPITERS 5 & 6

Chapter 5

(a) It is a public relations exercise to keep up morale in America. One family had already lost all their sons. It would be disastrous for a repeat of this.

(b) No one knows where Ryan is – the group he is with got separated when they landed in France. They also suffered heavy casualties, so Ryan may even be dead. They have no way of finding out.

Chapter 6

(a) ...there are pretty girls there (in Caen).

(b) ...prepare them for fighting real battles.

(c) ...why he had been chosen for the mission to save Private Ryan.

(d) ...a public relations mission.

(e) ...who can speak French and German.

CHAPITERS 7–9

Chapter 7

(a) Reiben/The jeep they are travelling in is full.

(b) Reiben/Private Ryan from Iowa is the farmer.

(c) Reiben/Miller has just described Ryan’s excellent school report, and the fact that he was awarded the school’s Good Citizenship Prize twice.

(d) Miller/the squad has just forced its way through the front of the American advance.

(e) Upham/Sarge has just pointed out that they are being attacked from both sides by the Germans.

(f) Wade/the Germans have just hit the American jeep, but fortunately everyone had got out in good time so nobody is hurt.

(g) Upham/he is angry when Mellish refers to
something as a 'private joke'.
(h) Reiben he is commenting on the fact that their mission to save Ryan is for his mother's sake.

Chapter 8
1 (e) 2 (c) 3 (a) 4 (h) 5 (d) 6 (b) 7 (g) 8 (f)

Chapter 9
Similarities
• They're both privates in the army.
• They have the same first and last names and middle initial James F. Ryan.
• Both have brothers.
Differences
• F in names stands for Francis or Frederick
• The Ryan they meet has two brothers at school not three brothers in the army.
• He's from Minnesota, not Iowa.

CHAPTERS 10–12
Chapter 10
1 Four options
(a) A Ryan is alive – Ryan survives but the rest of the squad get killed.
B Ryan is dead – While the squad is making sure, they are killed by Germans.
C Ryan is wounded – The squad will have to carry him.
D Ryan has been dead for a long time – The squad takes Ryan's dog tags and escapes quickly.
(b) Best – D/Worst – C
2 (a) Miller/Mellish has suggested shooting Ryan, changing his dog tags to Ryan and sending them home to Ryan's mother.
(b) Dewindt/He hands Miller a bag of dead soldiers' dog tags so that they can check to see if Ryan is among them
(c) Upham/He is talking about a French couple Miller is trying to communicate with.
(d) Michaelson/Private Ryan
(e) Miller/He is looking at the village of Ramelle on the map.

Chapter 11
(a)...holes in them.
(b)...an area of grass where the bodies of American paratroopers were lying.
(c)...attack the Germans in the field.
(d)...the German machine gun position.
(e)...the bodies of two American paratroopers.
(f)...a German machine-gunner in the field.

Chapter 12
(a) False, shot in the chest
(b) False, he begins to panic
(c) True
(d) False, he wants the drugs so that he will die
(e) True
(f) False, it's only a small wound.
(g) False, two
(h) True
(i) False, Miller blindfolds him and tells him to walk in the direction of the Americans.

CHAPTERS 13–15
Chapter 13
(a) It is destroyed by American bombing.
(b) It sounds like a tractor – so it is a normal countryside sound.
(c) It is blown up by a huge American gun.
(d) He can't understand their expressions and the fact that they are shaking their heads and laughing.
(e) Because he helps save their lives.
(f) He doesn't want to abandon his comrades. He wants to continue to fight for his country.
(g) These are the men who died trying to save him.
(h) He decides to stay and lead Private Ryan's group.

Chapter 14
(a) weapons/bridge
(b) tank/street
(c) church/machine-gun
(d) socks/explosives/grease
(e) café/bridge
(f) four/ground/shake
(g) wheels
(h) chest
(i) died or were killed/tower
(j) back
(k) soldier/prisoner
(l) plane
(m) letter/pocket

Chapter 15
(a) He wanted to be alone with memories.
(b) They were on holiday.
(c) He wanted to forget the horror of war because he felt guilty - men had sacrificed their lives to save him.
(d) He kept reliving the horror of war and the memories of Ramelle. Those men had died for him.

Activities after reading the book
Personal answers