Google Groups for Classroom Discussions
Hello!

I am Lauren Madrid

I am here because I love Google and what it can do in my classroom!

You can find me at:
lauren.madrid@leanderisd.org
Google Groups is a tool that allows you to facilitate discussions amongst students and colleagues.

You can customize your groups to fit your needs.

Google Groups allows you to organize all of your discussions into one place.

Access Groups from anywhere using your smartphone.
Let’s get started!
Welcome to the The Things They Carried forum!
You will be expected to post answers to the questions asked and respond to your classmates throughout the reading.

Ms. Madrid, Ms. Maddux, and/or Mrs. Wenerstrom will be posting questions and topics, but you can also use the forum to help you clear up any confusion you might have while reading the book.

Forum Rules:
1. Be polite. Remember that your name will be posted next to what you type, so everyone will know who wrote what.
2. Be clear. Give as much information (page numbers) as necessary for other people to be able to help you with your question or respond to your thoughts.
3. Be on topic. This is a place to discuss the novel, not a place to discuss your weekend plans. Save that for Facebook.

When replying to other students’ posts, try using one of these sentence starters in your comment to make it more academic:

Click the image above to connect to the actual site.
Example Post Options

Post Five - Due Wednesday, April 12th (A)    Thursday, April 13th (B)

AQWF - Chapters 9-12
Hiro - Chapter 5

Annotating for:
Think about the following quotes about war and try to connect as many of them as you can to the end section of your novels.

- "The first casualty of war is truth." - Rudyard Kipling
- "I hate war as only a soldier who has lived it can, only as one who has seen its brutality, its futility, its stupidity." - Pres. Eisenhower
- "The means of war are inevitably horrible and the ends of war are always uncertain." - Howard Zinn
- "A nation that continues year and year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death." - Martin Luther King, Jr.
- "The direct use of force is such a poor solution to any problem, it is generally employed only by small children and large nations." - David Friedman

**ALL** - Look for at least three important piece of figurative language.
## Example Grading System

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Turn to your table and discuss how you might try Google Groups in your department or content area.
Quick Steps

Create Group

Create Topic(s) for Discussion

Read Comments and Respond
STEP 1 - Getting Started

- Click on the black waffle in the right-hand corner of your screen on Chrome
- Click on Groups
STEP 2 - Group Settings

❖ Click “Create Group” (red)

❖ Fill out the following information and then click “Create” at the top (red)

➢ Group Name – ex. All Quiet on the Western Front
➢ Group Email – ex. AQWF@leanderisd.org
➢ Group Type – Decide if you want Web Forum or Q&A Forum (see descriptions)
➢ Basic Permissions – change under “Join the group” to “Anyone in the organization can ask”

❖ Click “Create” (red at top)
STEP 3 - Welcome Message

❖ Click “Add welcome message” (blue) to add a message that will be seen every time someone goes to your group page.

❖ This is a good place for pictures, rules, main overall idea of group, rubric, etc.
STEP 4 - Adding Topics

To add discussion questions/topics, click “New Topic/Question” (red) at the top

❖ Fill out Subject – main idea of the post
❖ Add any extra directions, the problem, steps to posting in the bigger white space
❖ Click “Post” (red)
❖ Now this topic is up and ready for students (group members) to post responses
STEP 5 - Adding Students or Members to the Group

❖ Students should click “Groups” from the black waffle just like you did.
❖ In the search bar, they should type the title of your group (Group Name).
❖ Once found, students should click “Apply to join group” (blue).
❖ The teacher will receive an email asking for permissions for each student – yes this is a lot of emails, but it is only one time, and it directs you in the email to “Manage members”.
❖ You will check the box next to each student and then click “Approve applicant” to allow them in.
STEP 6 - Recommended Changes

❖ Students/Teachers can click the small star right under the title of the group to “Favorite” the group - it will turn yellow.

❖ Click the small dropdown arrow under a topic title to change the way you view the discussion thread, change email settings for that one topic, or get a direct link to the topic for posting on Google Classroom or websites.
Click the person dropdown in the top, right corner to change email settings and see membership details.

- I highly recommend changing your email settings to “daily Summary” so you don’t receive emails every time a student posts.
- Students can also change their email settings
Thanks!

Your turn to try!

You can find me at:
lauren.madrid@leanderisd.org

Please click this [link](#) to leave feedback for this presentation.

Any questions?