

- 1) Why did the Americans like the photo of Private Dwyer?  
Because it showed the US soldier as someone good and compassionate. It was what they wanted to believe.
- 2) 'The story turned bitter years ago' Explain what the writer means here.  
The story is the story of the ~~the~~ war, which stopped being triumphal.
- 3) How exactly do you think Mr Dwyer died?  
Either of an accidental overdose or he committed suicide.
- 4) What evidence is there that Joseph Dwyer was a good man before he went to Iraq? he helped his friends, he was a rock, serviced his friend's car, was like an uncle to Justin, he picked them up, he took Ms Knapp's place in the army.
- 5) What indications were there after Dwyer came home that he 'was heading for a disastrous end'?  
He was skinny and haunted, paranoid, sometimes thought he was still in Iraq. He couldn't go movies sat with his back to the wall in restaurants and thought the Iraqis were coming to get him.
- 6) Why did his friends want his 'guns and cans of solvent'?  
So he couldn't hurt himself or others.
- 7) '.... then he could tell them where the Iraqis were.' Where were the Iraqis that he was talking about?  
Only in his mind.
- 8) Why do you think the police discharged him?  
They decided he wasn't dangerous and felt sorry for him when they realised he was a war veteran.
- 9) Explain what his mother means when she says that 'he never came home'.  
The boy she knew as her son had changed completely. He wasn't the same person.
- 10) What was 'too little, too late'?  
the peer counseling
- 11) In what way do Angela and Dionne think that the military let Joseph down?  
They didn't give him enough help. They didn't give him a full psychological examination before releasing him.
- 12) 'with nobody to carry him to safety' - Why does the writer choose these words?  
to make the reader go back to the photo at the start. Joseph P. was there for the wounded boy, but in the end nobody was there for Joseph.