**“The Things They Carried” Task – Passage Analysis**

**In partners:**

* Read the first chapter of *The Things They Carried*, entitled “The Things They Carried.”
* As you read, chart what each man carries and what they collectively carry. The individual men should be along the outside of your paper and the collective group should be in the middle.
* At the bottom, write a summation equation for the amount of weight each soldier is carrying.
* After you have charted for the whole chapter, categorize the objects. Feel free to use colors, lines, or lists, just make sure your categories are clear.
* Answer at least one of the following questions in a short paragraph using cited and embedded textual evidence:
  1. How does O’Brien earn the right to include abstract items by first relying upon the concrete?
  2. What is O’Brien’s purpose in beginning with this chapter?
  3. How does O’Brien seem to foreshadow future events in the book?

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