

Morissot said nothing.

The Prussian then dragged Monsieur Sauvage to one side and made the same proposition to him.

Monsieur Sauvage said nothing. **J**

So they were pushed together again, side by side.

It was then that Morissot happened to glance down at the net full of gudgeon which was lying in the grass a few yards away.

A ray of sunlight fell on the heap of glittering fish, which were still quivering
220 with life. As he looked at them he felt a momentary weakness. In spite of his efforts to hold them back, tears filled his eyes. **K**

“Farewell, Monsieur Sauvage,” he mumbled.

And Monsieur Sauvage replied:

“Farewell, Monsieur Morissot.”

They shook hands, trembling uncontrollably from head to foot.

“Fire!” shouted the officer.

Twelve shots rang out simultaneously.

J MAKE INFERENCES

Why do Morissot and Sauvage refuse to offer the Prussian officer a password?

K SYMBOL

Reread lines 216–221. How does this description contribute to your understanding of the fish as a symbol in the story?



Detail of *Execution of the Emperor Maximilian* (1867), Édouard Manet. Oil on canvas, 77¹/₈" × 102¹/₄".
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gair Macomber (30.444).