



## Reading Report Sheet

Name & group: Farah Amel Moussi // FILA

E-material (specify the type): War and Peace [E-book]

Author: Leo Tolstoy

Publication: <https://oceanofpdf.com/>

Pages: 1392

Impression about the material: “War and Peace” is regarded as an iconic work of literature written by the Russian author Leo Tolstoy and published from 1865-1869.

Summary: Summarizing this book is a hard task, because it is a complex novel that follows dozens of different characters, focuses on massive historical events and a myriad of tiny, intimate moments. Therefore it’s hard to pinpoint the exact detailed storyline in a couple of lines. The characters of this novel come from drastically different backgrounds but they all are living through the Napoleon wars in Russia. They live and die, love and hate, win and lose, and frustrate the reader with their apparent crassness. A quote from this book that perfectly summarizes it is: “It’s not given to people to judge what’s right or wrong. People have eternally been mistaken and will be mistaken, and in nothing more than in what they consider right and wrong.”

Personal Reflection: I could write a one thousand-page essay about this book, but as I’m limited to a couple of lines, I will try to be as concise as possible. I’m not exaggerating when I say that this has to be one of the best books ever written. This novel is a triumph of the human mind in all its richness and complexity. One of the things that makes this book special in my opinion is Tolstoy’s unconventional syntax, he uses two languages in the original version of this book: Russian and French in order to portray different qualities (French to portray insincerity and Russian to portray sincerity) to show the literal contradiction of the two words: ‘war’ and ‘peace’.

*To cite Tolstoy again: “We can know only that we know nothing. And that is the highest degree of human wisdom.”*