

ONE SHEET REVISION

'Dulce et Decorum Est' by Wilfred Owen

Summarise what the poem is about in full sentences:

Annotate the poem with points you can remember from your initial study:

Bent double, like old beggars under sacks,
Knock-kneed, coughing like hags, we cursed through sludge,
Till on the haunting flares we turned our backs
And towards our distant rest began to trudge.

- 5 Men marched asleep. Many had lost their boots
But limped on, blood-shod. All went lame; all blind;
Drunk with fatigue; deaf even to the hoots
Of gas shells dropping softly behind.

- 10 Gas! Gas! Quick, boys! – An ecstasy of fumbling,
Fitting the clumsy helmets just in time;
But someone still was yelling out and stumbling,
And flound'ring like a man in fire or lime ...
Dim, through the misty panes and thick green light,
As under a green sea, I saw him drowning.

- 15 In all my dreams, before my helpless sight,
He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.

- 15 In all my dreams, before my helpless sight,
He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.

- If in some smothering dreams you too could pace
Behind the wagon that we flung him in,
And watch the white eyes writhing in his face,
20 His hanging face, like a devil's sick of sin;
If you could hear, at every jolt, the blood
Come gargling from the froth-corrupted lungs,
Obscene as cancer, bitter as the cud
Of vile, incurable sores on innocent tongues, –
25 My friend, you would not tell with such high zest
To children ardent for some desperate glory,
The old Lie: Dulce et decorum est
Pro patria mori.

Complete the following questions on context:

- 1) Why is it important to know Owen was killed in action exactly one week before the end of the war?
- 2) Why is it important to know he fought in battle?
- 3) How is this shown in the poem?

Complete each analytical verb with a different idea:

Owen may have written the poem:

to criticise

to teach

to warn

to reveal the importance of

to celebrate

ONE SHEET REVISION

Annotate the following quotations by answering the questions for each:



- 1) What does the line mean?
- 2) What does the line suggest?
- 3) How has Owen used language to present the impact of war?

“Gas! GAS! Quick, boys!”

‘guttering, choking, drowning’

‘In all my dreams’

‘the old Lie’

How does Owen present patriotism?

Answer in full sentences.