

ONE SHEET REVISION

'The Manhunt' by Simon Armitage

Summarise what the poem is about in full sentences:

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

After the first phase,
after passionate nights and intimate days,

only then would he let me trace
the frozen river which ran through his face,

only then would he let me explore
the blown hinge of his lower jaw,

and handle and hold
the damaged, porcelain collar-bone,

and mind and attend
the fractured rudder of shoulder-blade,

and finger and thumb
the parachute silk of his punctured lung.

Only then could I bind the struts
and climb the rungs of his broken ribs,

and feel the hurt
of his grazed heart.

Skirting along,
only then could I picture the scan,

the foetus of metal beneath his chest
where the bullet had finally come to rest.

Then I widened the search,
traced the scarring back to its source

to a sweating, unexploded mine
buried deep in his mind, around which

every nerve in his body had tightened and closed.
Then, and only then, did I come close.

Complete the following questions on context:

- 1) Why is it important that this poem is written in the 20th century?
- 2) How was the soldier impacted by war?
- 3) How is this shown in the poem?

Complete each analytical verb with a different idea:

Simon Armitage may have written the poem:

to criticise

to teach

to warn

to reveal the importance of

to celebrate

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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 Armitage used language to present the soldier and his wife?

*'only then would he let me trace
the frozen river which ran through his face,'*

'the parachute silk of his punctured lung.'

'the foetus of metal beneath his chest'

'Then, and only then, did I come close.'

How does Simon Armitage present the inner conflict for the soldier's wife?

Answer in full sentences.