

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER: YEAR 9 – Term 1 - Conflict

Poem Summaries:

Who's for the Game? Jessie Pope

It represents war as fun, jovial and full of glory that any young man could earn if only he had the courage.

Suicide in the Trenches – Siegfried Sassoon

It tells of the suicide of a young man sent off to war and attacks the 'smug-faced' crowds who greet the returning soldiers. Sassoon is criticising the loneliness, health conditions, patriotism and also the lack of resources that the soldiers faced while they are in the trenches.

The Soldier – Rupert Brooke

This poem is a sonnet in which Brooke glorifies England during the First World War. The poem represents the patriotic ideals that characterized pre-war England.

Dulce et Decorum est – Wilfred Owen

Owen vividly depicts the horrors of war. He describes soldiers trudging back to base when they suddenly come under attack and have to fit their gas masks quickly. At the end he wants to dispel the view of war held by the general public. The speaker argues that if they had seen what he had, they wouldn't glorify war.

Anthem for Doomed Youth – Wilfred Owen

The poem describes memorial tributes to the soldiers who die in war. Owen makes comparisons between war and home. He seems to show the futility of religion at this time while also demonstrating the brutality of war.

The Manhunt – Simon Armitage

The poem explores the impact of the experience of war on a soldier, and in turn his relationship with his wife, and his ability to connect with others.

A Wife in London – Thomas Hardy

The poem describes a **wife** receiving news of her husband who has died in fighting in **the Boer War**

In Flanders Fields – John McCrae

The poppies mark the place where people died, bright spots in the gloom. The poem addresses those who still live - they should carry on the torch for their fallen comrades.

Mametz Wood - Owen Sheers The poem looks back on the battle at Mametz Wood where the Welsh Division fought during the Battle of the Somme. Years later bones are still being turned up by farmers

Context:

Who's for the Game? Jessie Pope

Written at the start of WW1. A conversational, jingoistic poem which would have been published in newspapers.

Suicide in the Trenches – Siegfried Sassoon

Written in 1917. The poet was a serving soldier who wrote the poem in response to the war. Sassoon felt contempt for the political leaders who, safe in their power and comfort, sent young men off to die in huge battles that seemed futile and pointless.

The Soldier – Rupert Brooke

Written in the early 1900s. Propaganda, jingoistic, patriotic poem written at the beginning of WW1 (1914). Brooke died near the beginning of the war from an infected mosquito bite, so never experienced the true horrors of war.

Dulce et Decorum est – Wilfred Owen

Written in the early 1900s, towards the end of WW1 (1918). It is an anti-war poem. Owen was a soldier himself and had experienced the horrors of war. He died two weeks before the end of WW1.

Anthem for Doomed Youth – Wilfred Owen

Owen drafted the poem at Craiglockhart War Hospital near Edinburgh in 1917. The sonnet was redrafted seven times, with the help of Siegfried Sassoon. It is an anti-war poem. Owen was a soldier himself and had experienced the horrors of war. He died two weeks before the end of WW1.

The Manhunt – Simon Armitage

Written in the late 1900s, exploring the relationship between husband and wife, Ed and Laura, following his injuries and PTSD after serving in the armed forces in Bosnia.

A Wife in London – Thomas Hardy

Written in the late 1800s, exploring the grief of a wife losing her husband in the second Boer War in South Africa. 22,000 British troops died in the conflict.

In Flanders Fields – John McCrae

John McCrae (1872-1918), a Canadian lieutenant colonel, was inspired to write it after he conducted the burial service for an artillery officer, Alexis Helmer, who had been killed in the conflict.

Mametz Wood – Owen Sheers

Modern poem. Sheers visited Mametz Wood in France which was the location of the Battle of the Somme 1916 (WW1). The British forces approached the German forces and approx. 4000 British soldiers lost their lives. Bodies are still being dug up today.

Key Themes:

War

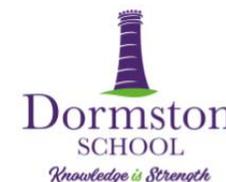
Relationships

Death

Reflection

Memory

Loss



Words to compare and contrast

Comparing

Similarly

In addition

Likewise

Both poems

Contrasting

In contrast

Conversely

However

Whereas

Can you think of any more?

Key Quotes:

Who's for the Game? Jessie Pope

The red crashing game of a fight
Who'll give his country a hand?
...rather come back with a crutch?

Suicide in the Trenches – Siegfried Sassoon

... grinned at life in empty joy
He put a bullet through his brain.
The hell where youth and laughter go.

The Soldier – Rupert Brooke
For ever England

Whom England bore, shaped
Under an English heaven

Dulce et Decorum est – Wilfred Owen

Bent double, like old beggars
Gas! Gas! Quick, boys!
Guttering, choking, drowning

Anthem for Doomed Youth – Wilfred Owen

What passing-bells for these who die as
cattle?

And each slow dusk a drawing-down of
blinds.

The shrill, demented choirs of wailing shells;

The Manhunt – Simon Armitage

Porcelain collar-bone

Foetus of metal

Only then, did I come close

A Wife in London – Thomas Hardy

The street-lamp glimmers cold
He – has fallen – in the far South Land
Page-full of his hoped return

In Flanders Fields – John McCrae

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Take up our quarrel with the foe:

Mametz Wood - Owen Sheers

The wasted young
China plate of a shoulder blade
Absent tongues

Methods:

Effective Adjectives

Effective Verbs

Imagery

Simile

Metaphor

Personification

Pathetic Fallacy

Alliteration

Emotive Language

Semantic Field

Sibilance

Assonance

Perspective

Foreshadowing

Juxtaposition

Couplets

Tercets

Quatrains

Useful Analytical Vocabulary

Suggests

Implies

Illustrates

Connotes

Evokes

Emphasises

Exemplifies

Evaluative vocabulary

Effectively

Skillfully

Convincingly

Successfully

Clearly

Sentence Starters:

(a) Read the poem _____. In this poem the writer explores ideas about _____. Write about the ways in which the writer presents _____ in this poem.

(b) Compare the presentation of _____ in the poem above and one other poem of your choice.

Both poems ...

Their views of war are different because ...

... uses effective imagery to convey ...

However in ... poem, he is suggesting that war is

Structurally, both poems are similar/are different.

Key Words:

Structure

Language

Imagery

Lame

Fatigue

Floundering

Guttering

Writhing

Ardent

Patriotism

Propaganda

Foe

Contrast

Comparison

Quarrel

Taper

Irony

Jaunt



Further Reading:

War Horse - Michael Morpurgo

I am David- Anne Holm

When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit- Judith Kerr

300 - Frank Miller

The Book Thief- Markus Zusak

Blitzcat - Robert Westall

The Foreshadowing - Marcus Sedgwick –

I am Malala - Malala Yousafzai

