

Start here.

Wilfred Owen combines the savagely brutal ideas of war with complex literary techniques in order to allow his audience to understand the ideas in which he wishes to present. In Owen's poems 'Dulce Et Decorum Est' and 'The Next War' he portrays the horrific ideas of war, and how loss is a major factor of being a war soldier.

Owen aims to display the horrors of war, causing horrendous amounts of death and loss of lives. The poem 'Dulce Et Decorum Est' highlights the horrific acts on the battlefield and its lasting impact on the soldiers. He explains this through an extended metaphor 'through the misty panes and thick green light, I saw him dying'. This highlights the endless amount of gas which was used in order to rid the lives of many soldiers, and describing the green light as 'thick' places heavy emphasis on the numerous deaths that this killing material has

caused, resulting in the loss of many. This next stanza continues with "Gas! Gas! Quick boys!". The imperative command accentuates the sheer fright concurring their minds, as the thought and first glimpse of gas is symbolic of the horrific ~~and~~ loss of life in which they must either endure or witness. The readers are prompted by Wilfred Owen, to understand and empathise with the death and loss in which war had created for these men, stripping their young, innocent lives away from them.

In a similar context, another poem by Wilfred Owen includes 'The Next Day' which also tells of the ~~the~~ terrifying circumstances the soldiers endured, as death and loss became a regular act in their environment. "We walked quite friendly with death - we sat and have eaten with him." The personification of death within this ~~first line of~~ stanza exemplifies how the loss of soldiers and the recurring deaths have become a constant in the lives of these soldiers, almost like a

Additional writing space on back page.

companion through out the war, as it has been the only thing that has remained in their lives. Soon to follow, the line reads 'we sniffed the odour in his breath' is not only personifying death once again, but also expresses a metaphorical explosion, as the soldiers can feel death so close to them, that they can smell its horrific st^{Therefore} The audience ~~can~~ are propped to understand the soldier's familiarity with death and loss, which Owen continues to clearly identify throughout the poem.

Another point in which Owen wishes to portray is the psychological effect war has on the minds of the soldiers. In 'Dulce Et Decorum Est' nightmares consume the minds of soldiers. ~~In~~ ~~my~~ ~~dreams~~ ~~but~~ This is exemplified ~~is~~ through the use of 1st person as Owen writes, 'I had my dreams before my helpless sight.' This line allows the audience to understand its extremely



← Tick this box if you have continued this answer in another writing booklet.

Start here.

personal meaning towards the poet, whilst also ~~attempting~~ evoking a deep sense of empathy as the horrific events and aftermath of war still remains in their minds, which could cause mental illnesses in their possible future. Each soldier who survives the war must live with the memories of losing their fellow soldiers as they die on the battlefield. An extended metaphor presents the soldiers 'smothering dreams' which symbolises the agonising thoughts which cease to remove themselves from their brains. Evidently, Owen presents the terrifying aftermath that follows the loss of life on the battlefield.

To continue, in the poem 'The Next War' Owen also presents loss and death as the factors which have affected the mental state of each soldier. Towards the end of the poem, a sarcastic tone arises. 'Oh death was never an enemy of ours!' The sarcasm

in which Owen has chosen to present provokes readers to question the seriousness of this statement. The soldiers are using the sarcasm and ironic idea in order to momentarily trace their mind away from the sickening thought of death, as it has caused them a great deal of loss, affecting their mental state. Additionally, 'The Next War' also presents the way in which death has become immune to the soldiers, but will always impact their psychological state due to their constant relationship with such ~~an~~^{the} unappreciated idea of death.

To conclude, both of Wilfred Owen poems 'Dulce Et Decorum Est' and 'The Next War' identify the extreme idea of loss due to death. The poet also wishes to clearly illustrate war's horrendous ability to leave a mental print on the minds of the soldiers.

Additional writing space on back page.