

9.1.2 Word Classes and Grammar

Noun: person, place, object, idea. Concrete nouns are things you can touch (**table, tree**). Abstract nouns are ideas you can't touch (**love, honour**). Proper nouns are names and begin with capital letters (**Stanhope, Vimy Ridge, France**)

Verb: action word or state of being (**to be, to make, to have**). For example, 'Stanhope **was filled** with rage' or 'Stanhope **hated** the war.'

Adjective: words that describe a noun (**beautiful, angry, tall**). For example, 'Raleigh is a **young** officer.'

Adverb: words that describe verbs or adjectives (**quickly, beautifully**). There are also adverbs of time or frequency (**often, sometimes, seldom**) and degree (**'The gun was very heavy'**).

Pronoun: words that replace nouns (**'They** returned to the trench', '**It** was dead').

Connective: words that connect phrases or clauses ('They returned to the trench, **but** it had been partially destroyed').

Preposition: words that show the relationship or position of things ('Crows swooped **over** the barren land', 'the pen is **under** the table').

9.1.3 Literary Techniques

Symbolism and Motifs in *Journey's End*:

Time: There are constant references to time and 'waiting' throughout the play- to reflect the boredom of life in the trenches and the reality that the soldiers are simply waiting to die in the big attack (or raid).

Light: Through the play, the light in the trenches becomes increasingly dim- to reflect either the darkening mood or increasing lack of hope. After Osborne's death, artificial light (the dugouts is 'festively lit with candles') to symbolise the artificial 'happiness' of Stanhope.

Osborne's Pipe: Osborne has to leave his pipe, unfinished and whilst it still has a 'glow' on it, to go on the raid- which is symbolic for how his and other soldiers' lives were cut short.

Earwigs: If you dip an earwig in whiskey it will go faster- just like a soldier.

Uniforms: Used to reflect the characters' mental states. Stanhope's is tidy but 'war-stained', whilst Raleigh's is 'fresh'. However, after the Raid his too has become war-stained. This is symbolic for the minds of the soldiers.

General Techniques:

Metaphor: a figure of speech in which a word or phrase is applied to an object or action to which it is not literally applicable (e.g. 'time is money').

Simile: comparison of one thing with another thing of a different kind, used to make a description more emphatic or vivid (e.g. 'as brave as a lion').

Foreshadowing: an advance sign or warning of what is to come in the future.

Dramatic irony: the full significance of a character's words or actions is clear to the audience or reader although unknown to the character.

Dialect: a particular form of a language which is peculiar to a specific region or social group.

Semantic field: a set of words grouped together that refers to a specific subject.

9.1.4 Form and Structure

Form: a poem's physical structure. Elements like the poem's type, stanza structure, line lengths, rhyme scheme, and rhythm express its form.

Structure: the structural framework that underlies the order and manner in which a narrative (story) is presented to a reader, listener, or viewer. The narrative text structures are the plot and the setting.

End-stopping: a line of poetry ending with punctuation.

Half-rhyme: a rhyme in which the stressed syllables of ending consonants match, however the preceding vowel sounds do not match (e.g. 'swarm' and 'worm').

Iambic pentameter/tetrameter: a line of verse with five metrical feet, each consisting of one short (or unstressed) syllable followed by one long (or stressed) syllable/ four iambic feet.

Internal rhyme: a rhyme involving a word in the middle of a line and another at the end of the line or in the middle of the next.

Rhyming couplet: a rhyming pair of successive lines of verse, typically of the same length.

Denouement: the final part of a play, film, or narrative in which the strands of the plot are drawn together and matters are explained or resolved.

Climax: the most intense, exciting, or important point of something; the culmination.

Blank verse: verse without rhyme, especially that which uses iambic pentameters.

Caesura: a pause in a line of poetry.

Enjambment: the continuation of a sentence without a pause beyond the end of a line.

Sonnet: a poem of fourteen lines using any of a number of formal rhyme schemes, in English typically having ten syllables per line.

Volta: in a poem, the turn of thought or argument.

Metre: the rhythm of a piece of poetry, from the number and length of feet in a line.

Dialogue: a conversation between two or more people.

9.1.5 Context

World War One: 1914-1918. Considered one of the most brutal and bloodiest conflicts in history.

Propaganda: Convinced young soldiers to sign up- that fighting in WWI was noble. Also presented Germans as evil monsters.

Vimy Ridge: A horrific battle whereby commanding officers ordered their soldiers to run at German machine guns.

Shell shock: Nowadays known as 'post-traumatic stress disorder'. Soldiers were effectively paralysed with fear.

Superior officers: Soldiers were expected to follow the command of their superior officer, regardless of how daft the order was. Any refusal (also known as insubordination) would result in being court marshalled and shot.

Mametz Wood: scene of a fierce WW1 battle in the Somme between the Germans and a Welsh infantry division.

Brian Turner: an American war veteran who fought in the Iraq war. Often autobiographical, his poems describe the terror, compassion and loneliness of armed conflict.

Ball turret: a plexi-glass bauble that hung from beneath the fighter plane where the gunner could swing around and see in all directions to shoot.

The Troubles: The Troubles were a period of conflict in Northern Ireland that lasted from the late 1960s to the late 1990s. Essentially a religious conflict between Catholics and Protestants.

9/11: The September 11 attacks, often referred to as 9/11, were a series of coordinated terrorist attacks by the Islamist terrorist group Al-Qaeda against the United States on the morning of Tuesday, September 11, 2001. Two planes were flown into the World Trade Centre in New York.

Bosnian War: The Bosnian War was an international armed conflict that took place in Bosnia and Herzegovina between 1992 and 1995.

PTSD: Post-traumatic stress disorder is a mental health condition caused by a traumatic experience. Symptoms include flashbacks, nightmares, anxiety and difficulty sleeping.