

2017-2018 Year 11 English Holiday Homework

Expectations:

- You are expected to read *Generals Die in Bed* over the summer holidays.
- You are also expected to find an oral presentation topic and two articles published since March 2017 that support your argument.
- Your holiday homework is due in your first English lesson 2018.
- English teachers are required to inform Senior School of any students who have not completed the homework to a satisfactory standard or have possible authentication concerns.
- The homework may be typed or handwritten.

Purpose:

- You need to have a solid knowledge and understanding of the text before you can develop the kind of thinking that will bring you strong results in your SACs and exam. The thoroughness of your holiday homework directly benefits you.

Equipment

- **Please bring one 48/64 page exercise book to your first English class.** All your written SACs will be completed in this exercise book. Your teacher will bring this book to each SAC session.
- Make sure you have a **good quality dictionary**. Cheap or small dictionaries have fewer words and may be useless to you in the exam or your SACs. You are not permitted to use a combined dictionary/thesaurus in your SACs or the exam. Your dictionary will be checked. Do not have anything written in it (besides your name!)

HOLIDAY HOMEWORK

Generals Die in Bed

Task 1: Research World War I and write a description of the main events. Consider the following: Who was fighting for either side? What role did Canada play in the war? Why was this war different to previous wars, and what made advancement from either side so difficult?

Task 2: Through his use of key settings, events and descriptions, Harrison emphasises the realities of life in a war zone. Consider the following events and settings by identifying relevant quotes which detail the harsh and shocking experiences of war.

- Find a quote for each of the following events/settings
 - The narrator's first day in the trenches (from pg 19)
 - Hiding from the sniper in the trench (pgs 46 – 53)
 - Their rest stop in a small French town (pgs 64-70)
 - Dealing with rations/Back in the trenches (pgs 73 – 78)
 - The narrator kills a boy and captures his brother (pgs 88 – 96)
 - London and meeting Gladys (pgs 123 – 135)
 - Advancing on the front lines (pgs 151 – 154)
 - Looting the town of Arras (pgs 176 – 180)
 - The final battle (pgs 196 -204)
- Compare and contrast the difference between the narrators imaginings of a battle on page 23-24, and their first bombardment on page 25-28

Task 3: Identify and describe (utilize a quote or quotes) each of the following characters. To do this effectively you must consider their purpose, what they symbolise/of what group they are representative, and their effect on the reader.

- A. Narrator
- B. Anderson
- C. Brown
- D. Captain Clark
- E. Broadbent
- F. Fry

Example:

Character	Description (quote/s)	-What is their purpose? (What do they symbolise? What group in society do they represent? How do they affect the reader?)
Anderson	Anderson is a noble and compassionate character. Morally takes the higher ground, due to his position as a Methodist preacher, often chastising the men for their behaviour: "Men, do you know you're sinning in the eyes of God?"etc. etc.	Comes across as somewhat pathetic and weak; the reader doesn't form strong bonds with his character Represents those who joined the war because it was morally right to do so, not through genuine desire to engage in violence Symbolic of religion and faith at the time etc. etc.

Task 4: Harrison aims to demystify the glory of war. He sets out to give us an honest account of the realities of trench warfare, and the experiences of being a 'soldier'. How has he communicated this idea/message? (Use quotes/passages to support your ideas)

Task 5: Why is the novel called *Generals Die in Bed*? What is the title insinuating about those in command and how is this relevant to the events of the novel?

Oral Presentation

Your oral presentations will commence in Week 6 of Term 4 – that is **just over a week** after the Creative SAC is finished. **You are expected to complete the majority of your 3-5 minute presentation in your own time.**

For holiday homework, you must **choose a topic** that you can speak about persuasively that has been in the Australian news since **March of 2017**.

Please **attach printed copies** of the articles you've found to your holiday homework to hand in to your teacher.

***The most organised students will use some of their time during the holidays to make a start on writing their persuasive oral presentation. ***

My oral presentation topic: _____

I chose this topic because: _____

Tick the boxes below to confirm you've included your articles:

- Article 1 printed and attached
- Article 2 printed and attached