

3a The writer uses a variety of language devices to convey the coming of war. A sense of inevitability is created by the use of phrases reflecting certainty. The characters know that they 'will lose this war' and the writer portrays this ~~as~~ fixed fate throughout the poem by using pronouns and the future tense. 'they will come' and 'will be' create an event which seems certain to happen leaving a foreboding atmosphere of anticipation. The knowledge that they've 'lost this war before it has begun' promotes a sorrowful feeling of acceptance. The writer seems to encourage the reader to understand that the war is coming and there is no doubt. The word 'lost' employs thoughts of being beaten, destroyed and controlled therefore proposing that this is what war is like. The use of alliteration 'before it has begun' creates emphasis and rhythm, adding to the finality of war. They also use positive words therefore provide impact, foreshadowing the violence that awaits.

(Section B continued)

The use of pathetic fallacy indicates that the 'dawn' and the 'mist' are just elements of the war itself, because 'dawn' is an inevitability, no-one can prevent the dawn from rising. Furthermore, it could connote that 'their boots approaching at dawn' shatters all hope. That they will take away any hopes of new beginnings that the characters had. 'Mist' implies the unknown, mystery and the super-natural. It has an eerie effect linking to the anonymity of the coming soldiers.

The use of the collective pronouns 'they' and 'we' reveals separation between the two sides. 'they' also sounds ominous, suspicious and distant connoting the feelings the characters feel towards 'them' - the coming soldiers. A sense of belonging and communing is inferred by the use of 'our' - portraying the protective feelings that the characters have for another like they are a family. The writer does this to show ~~the~~^{their} thoughts of holding together when war approaches.

Hardy insinuates the blood-thirsty and violent nature of war by the use of cacophony 'boiling blood' which connotes the harsh horrors of the violent acts about to happen. These plosive words stand out and are highlighted as

(Section B continued)

brutal reflecting the sounds they make. Connotations of 'blood' imply violence, lust for killing and danger. Alternatively, 'boiling blood' could represent the anger and hatred felt by the people being invaded. The metaphor 'boiling blood' is hyperbolic conveying the strong, passionate feelings of the people as their anger rises their blood boils with fury. Another perception could be that the soldiers coming are so full of blood-thirsty brutality that their blood boils ~~madly~~ madly for the slaughter of others.

Hardy suggests that war is consuming - it takes over everything. 'blood will cover our roads, mix with our drinking water, it will creep into our dreams' - this use of layering builds up the extreme that the blood will even haunt their dreams. This is a use of juxtaposition contrasting the euphoric word 'dreams' with a cacophonous word 'creep' alluding to how war takes over the places where you escape, that it is all consuming and hungry. This is also ironic as dreams are untouchable whereas creep is a ~~very~~ sensory word associated with touch. Hardy portrays thoughts of inevitability and being consumed by the blind power of war as it comes.

(Section B continued)

3b(ii) Both 'Invasion' and 'Exposure' portray war however they contrast in the way they express this.

'Invasion' shows war to be barbaric and brutal, this is connoted by the regimented feel the poem creates by similar lined stanzas and plasive words such as 'blood' and 'pointing'. The use of the word ~~imperative~~ 'keep' is imperative, demanding administrating authority likening it to a command by an army general. The metaphor 'death-bringing' shows the soldiers are carries of death and the use of personification implies that this sense of death is omitted from the uniforms alone. The word 'death' is cacophonic - sharp, harsh with connotations of loss, fear and finality. An inevitability is shown - death will come it will 'march towards our homes'. Death cannot literally march into homes but it will take lives and obliterate family life and its preence will be felt vividly in the home.

Whereas, 'Exposure' presents another side of war, which is more subtle and could be perceived as more deadly. Although like 'Invasion' there is a sense of waiting and anticipation it has no inevitability. It is the opposite, the outcome is unknown. They expect war to take them however it doesn't come and the weather slowly and gradually disposes of them. Examples of their persistent waiting are 'keep awake' and 'worried by silence' which reveal their struggle and fear

(Section B continued)

of the 'silence'. Blake wants the readers to understand that the unknown is twice as deadly as the certain. The refrain 'But nothing happens' shows the silence and the waiting process which the soldiers face, yet they are almost trapped by it unable to become free of this waiting.

Personification is used, 'mad gusts tugging on the wire' indicating that the wind is 'tugging' at their lives, pulling on the transient wire of life. Emotive language is used to portray the 'twitching agonies of men' suggesting the pain and suffering the waiting of the war 'incessantly' enforces upon them. Pathetic fallacy reveals the quiet sadness the soldiers feel as 'The poignant misery of dawn begins to grow'. Dawn is used in 'Invasion' to symbolize hope which is taken away. In 'Exposure' dawn is just another element bringing with it more waiting and frustration. However, this is all the soldiers know that 'only... war lasts' - they do not recognise the 'rain soaks' and 'the clouds sag stormy' are conditions which can kill them with equal brutality.

Unlike 'Invasion' which is more hard-hitting, 'Exposure' is soporific and soft in the way it presents war. The ~~fact~~ juxtaposition of 'snow-dazed' and 'sun-dazed' show the

(Section B continued)

gentleness of hope and how the elements are lulling them into a final sleep. Natural imagery is used to create a heavenly sort of atmosphere 'littered with blossoms', this conveys peace, safety and beauty. That although the weather is destroying them it still has a narcissic beauty about it which war does not. Alliteration 'pale flakes' with 'fingering' sounds tender and kind.

