

Short-Answer Constructed Response Questions (CRQ)

Name: _____

Theme: Soldier Poets of World War I

Analyze the documents and answer the short-answer questions that follow each document in the space provided.

Document 1

“The Soldier” by Rupert Brooke*

If I should die, think only this of me:
The there’s some corner of a foreign field
That is forever England. There shall be
In that rich earth a richer dust concealed;
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,
Gave, once, her flowers to love, her ways to roam,
A body of England’s breathing English air,
Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of home.

And think, this heart, all evil shed away,
A pulse in the Eternal mind, no less
Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England given,
Her sights and sounds, dreams happy as her day;
And laughter, learnt of friends; and gentleness,
In hearts at peace, under an English heaven.

* Rupert Brooke was an athlete and a well-known poet who died early in the war.

1. Explain the historical circumstances that led to the developments of World War I that took place from 1914 to 1918.

Document 2

From “Dulce et Decorum Est” by Wilfred Owen*

Bent double, like old beggars under sacks,
Knock-kneed, coughing like hags, we cursed through sludge,
Till on the haunting flares we turned our backs
And towards our distant rest began to trudge.
Men marched asleep. Many had lost their boots
But limped on, blood-shod. All went lame; all blind;
Drunk with fatigue; deaf even to the hoots
Of tired, outstripped Five-Nines (shells) that dropped behind.

Gas! GAS! Quick, boys! – An ecstasy of fumbling
Fitting the clumsy helmets just in time:
But someone still was yelling out and stumbling
And flound’ring like a man in fire of lime . . .
Dim, through the misty panes and thick green light,
As under a green sea, I saw him drowning.
In all my dreams, before my helpless sight,
He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.

* Wilfred Owen was a decorated hero who was killed in action one week before the war ended. The title of this poem comes from the Latin phrase meaning “It is sweet and right to die for one’s country.”

2. Based on this excerpt, what changes in warfare were experienced by the soldiers during World War I in Western Europe?

3. Identify and explain a **cause-and-effect relationship** between the events during both poems, nationalism, pride in one’s country, and the realism of a world war. Be sure to use evidence from **both** documents 1 and 2 in your response.
