**COMMENT TO THE SOLDIER**

**COMPREHENSION**

1. The poet is speaking and he is also a soldier

2. He isn't afraid of death

3. If he dies in war, his grave will be in a foreign field because the first world war was not fought in England, but in continental Europe.

4. It will become a richer dust than the soil around it because this soil will contain the body of a soldier who died for his country and who has become a hero

5. War is an abstract idea, the emphasis is on the poet's feelings

6. He is speaking to the English people

**ANALYSIS**

3.

It's a **Petrarchan sonnet** (formed by 14 lines divided into 2 quatrains and 2 triplets, while the Shakespearean sonnet was formed by 3 quatrains and a final couplet). It’s a very traditional form of poetry and also the content is very traditional

4.

The images speak about a richer dust (line 4) and eternity (a pulse in the eternal mind, line 10); they suggest immortality, glory and peace which are positive concepts

5/6.

The poet uses a **personification** when he compares England to a mother who gave him life (bore, line 5) and taught him to be a good person and a brave soldier (line 5). The poet also underlines the beauty of the **English landscape** (flowers, l. 6, rivers and sun, l. 8) and the joy, friendliness and gentleness of the **English people** (l. 12-14)

England and English are repeated 6 times to underline the poet's love for his country

7.

The **tone** is patriotic and sentimental. It gives a positive and idealized representation of the war that offers to a soldier the opportunity to prove his patriotism and courage and to become immortal. In fact, death in battle is not seen as a tragic experience, but it is a noble act that will make the soldier immortal because his heroism will remain and he will be remembered even after his death.