Name_____ 1.10.19

“The Soldier” by Rupert Brooks

(Deconstructed) Poetry Explication 11CP

Big Picture (10 pts each)

1. What is the speaker literally referring to when he says “there’s some corner of a foreign field”? (2)

2. Why is that corner “for ever England”? (3)

3. What is the “dust” in lines 4-5?

Little Picture (10 pts each)

4. How many times is “England” mentioned in the poem?

5. What effect does the repetition have on the poem?

6. Who is the presumed audience of the poem?

Big Picture: Conclusion (20 pts each)

7. What is the speaker's purpose for writing this particular message? In other words, what does the speaker want the reader to think and feel? Length: 1 paragraph

8. Generally, it is dangerous to read too much into the life of the poet when analyzing poetry because it often leads to a limited or inaccurate analysis. However, World War I poetry is unique in the way that poets drew directly from their own experiences, often from within the trenches. It is clear that the experiences of Owen, Sassoon, and Brooke shaped the message and tone of their poetry. With this in mind, consider "The Soldier." It was written during the first year of the war and Rupert Brooke served in the war, but he was never at the front lines of battle. (He died in 1915 before the end of the war because of a blood infection caused by a mosquito bite.) Compare/contrast "The Soldier" with one of the other three poems you read in class this week. Length: 1 paragraph.