

# **“Dulce et Decorum Est” by Wilfred Owen**

## **(Deconstructed) Poetry Explication 11H**

### **Big Picture**

1. What is the rhyme scheme of this poem? For example, ABBA CDDC or AABB CCDD, etc.  
Line numbers have been provided below.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
  
15  
16  
  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

2. Reading Comprehension: *Summarize* in 1 complete sentence the events that are taking place in each section below. (*Do not try to interpret or apply meaning just yet.*)

Stanza 1

Stanzas 2 & 3

Stanza 4

3. Who is the “him” mentioned in line 14 and why is he the only one gassed in the poem? Very little detail is provided, but write what you can about who he is.

4. Tone: What is the overall tone of the poem (2-3 complete sentences)?

### **Little Picture**

5. Diction: Define with a dictionary the following words (line #s provided):

- sludge (2)
- shod (6)
- floundering (12)
- cud (23)
- ardent (26)

6. Imagery: Look closely at the first stanza. List 10 words or phrases from lines 1-8 that describe the marching soldiers. Include line numbers in parentheses.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

7. In complete sentences, explain why Owens describes the effects of gas as drowning (14).

