



Department of Education, Sabaragamuwa - Weekly School

Week - 8

Subject:- English Literature

Grade :- 11

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## War is Kind By Stephan Crane

Reading the poem for understanding

1. In each stanza, the poet is addressing someone. Who are they?
2. All of them are weeping over someone lost in the war. Over whom are they weeping?
3. Now explain the way these people died on the battle field.
  - Lover
  - Father
  - Son
4. Which aspects of war are brought out through the description of each death? Are they positive or negative?
5. How does the poet describe war? Is it a realistic description?
6. Which words/phrases create the horror of war?
7. Explain the meanings of the following
  - 'the affrighted steed ran on alone'
  - 'yellow trenches'
  - 'a field where a thousand corpses lie'
8. The poem also views about the pomp of war sarcastically. What do you understand by the following phrases?
  - 'Hoarse, booming drums of the regiment'
  - 'These men were born to drill and die The unexplained glory flies above them'
  - 'Swift blazing flag of the regiment Eagle with crest of red and gold'
  - 'Point for them the virtue of slaughter Make plain to them the excellence of killing'
9. Which aspects of war are brought out in the poem?
10. What is the tone of the poem?

12. The poet brings out two contradictory situations in the poem: the grandeur of war vs. the horror of war. What is his purpose? How does he criticize the political agenda in a war?

13. Write short descriptions on the following.

- . “Verbal irony plays a major role throughout the poem”.
- “The repetition of ‘Do not weep, War is kind’ is used ironically to negate the idea of the glory of war”.