“Dulce et Decorum Est” Wilfred Owen: Study Questions

1. Summarize what the poem is about in no more than 4 sentences.

2. Explain the meaning of the title of the poem. What, at first, does it suggest about the mood and subject of the poem?

3. How does the poet make an impact on the reader in the first two lines of the text?

4. Having read these lines what does the reader now understand the real tone of the title of the poem to be?

5. Consider the poem as a whole. Explain how well you feel Owen has described the reality of war.

6. Choose a phrase you think is particularly shocking or effective in describing the experience of war. Quote the phrase you have chosen and explain why you feel it is so powerful, be prepared to share your responses.