

English IV

Summative Assessment – Theme Assessment

Students are responsible for providing an objective summary with a topic statement and a theme statement with textual evidence to support the theme.)

Text (Poems)

“To An Athlete Dying Young” A.E. Housman

“Dulce et Decorum Est” Wilfred Owen

In Class Assessment

Thursday/Friday

October 3-4, 2013

I. Select Poem

After selecting one of the poems, the final written assessment should include:

II. Topic Statement

The poem “ _____ ” by _____ is about _____.

III. Well-Developed Objective Summary

IV. Theme Statement

The theme of “ _____ ” is _____.

V. Textual Evidence

Topic Statement

The poem “To An Athlete Dying Young” by A.E. Housman is about death at a young age. Housman uses the demise of a young athlete to develop his view on this subject.

Summary Review

“To An Athlete Dying Young” A.E. Housman

- I. Celebration of Athlete
- II. Death of Athlete
- III. Speaker’s Feelings – How does he feel about the athlete?
- IV. Reasons for Feelings
- V. Speaker’s Conclusion – How does he conclude the poem?

Topic Statement

The poem “Dulce et Decorum Est” by Wilfred Owens is about the experience of war. The poem highlights a day in war as told by one soldier.

Summary Review

“Dulce et Decorum Est”

- I. Soldiers’ Condition/Location
- II. Soldiers’ Action/Rest
- III. Tragic Event – Soldiers’ Didn’t hear, warning, soldiers’ actions, one soldier, speaker’s action
- IV. Speaker’s Dreams
- V. Speaker’s Encouragement
- VI. Speaker’s feelings/conclusion about saying

The theme of “Dulce et Decorum Est” is _____.

Textual Evidence

Introduced, Integrated, Explained

The theme of “To An Athlete Dying Young” is glory fades. Through the analogy of a runner, the town’s champion, the speaker illustrates this message. He explains by speaking to the athlete who dies young that he will miss the time when his fame and glory will cease. The young athlete dies when he has the distinction of having a sports record, and the speaker says to him, because of his early death, he will miss the time when this aspect of his glory will no longer exist. The speaker says to him, “eyes the shady night has shut cannot see the record cut.” Now, a dead young man, the runner’s eyes are closed eternally and will never face a beaten record. The speaker of the poem further informs the famed star that his once renown sports colleagues lived long enough when their “name died before the man.” However, he, the athlete, will not “swell the rout” of such tragedy. The runner has bypassed the act of living longer than his name lives and losing his notoriety. Through the death of an athlete who misses living long enough to have his record cut and his life longer than his name, the speaker in “To Athlete Dying Young” conveys that such glory will fade.