**Higher questions Exposure by Wilfred Owen**

1. Describe the conditions that the men had to put up with in the trenches as depicted in the poem. Back up your ideas with evidence from the text.
2. Owen uses alliteration very effectively in the poem. Consider for example, “rain soaks and clouds sag stormy.” Choose several examples of alliteration from the poem which seem to you to be effective and give reasons for your choice.
3. In this poem Owen creates a strong sense of place and mood. In the first stanza the jumpy, tense, nervous conditions as day breaks are vividly suggested: “Worried by silence, sentries whisper, curious, nervous…” Write about other parts of the poem where he creates a strong sense of mood and place.
4. We have already discussed the first line reference to Keats and have pointed out that Owen was greatly influenced by the sensuous language of his favourite poet. Where else in the poem can you see the influence of Keats and what is the effect? What do you think is gained by the echo from ‘Ode to a Nightingale’ in line 1?
5. How does Owen appeal to the senses in the poem?
6. What language is used to refer to death and is this effective?
7. What do you think is gained by accepting the reading ‘His frost’ in line 36 rather than ‘this frost’ which is what Owen seems to have written?
8. Consider the form of the poem and how it is structured. Comment on the rhyme scheme and the use of para-rhyme. What effect does this have on the tone of the poem?
9. What effect does the repetition of a short last line of each verse have on the poem?
10. What do you think is the main message of this poem? Back up your ideas with evidence from the text.