**English 1201: “Dulce Et Decorum Est” and “And He Said Fight On” Model Answer**

**1. Choose two images from “Dulce Et Decorum Est” and two images from “And He Said Fight On”. Discuss how these images are considered particularly effective in their respective poems.**

In Wilfred Owen’s poem “Dulce Et Decorum Est”, visual and auditory imagery is found to be particularly effective as it captures the exhausting and tragic experience of war for the audience which in turn affects the mood created. The audience regards the poem with a sombre mood as they picture the soldiers are weighted down by their rucksacks, “bent double, like old beggar”. Due to the poor conditions of the war, they are plagued with sickness as they are heard “coughing like hags”, and as they die the audience can hear them choking on their own respiratory fluids as the poison gas fills and destroys their lungs. The painful “guttering” and “choking” amplifies their suffering and the audience responds with disgust to the soldiers’ reality.

Similarly, the imagery in Pauline Johnson’s poem “And He Said Fight On” is equally moving as she is able to capture the relentless perseverance that the soldier is characterized by. The mood created here for the audience is one of pride. Even though the soldier’s enemy “war[s] upon my [his] fortress” and the audience can hear the guns “shattering its walls”, the audience recognizes his perseverance as he refuses to surrender. Even though his flag is torn to shreds, this symbol of his country’s strength still “floats above the height”, and as it continues to fly so too does he continue to fight. For this, the audience’s mood is established as a prideful one.

**2. Discuss how the tones created by the speakers in “Dulce Et Decorum Est” and “And He Said Fight On” are different. Use one reference to each poem to support your answer.**

Though both the poems “Dulce Et Decorum Est” and “And He Said Fight On” are both based on the thematic topic of war, the first has a cynical tone, while the second has a more relentless and prideful tone. For example, in “Dulce Et Decorum Est”, the speaker focuses primarily on the horrors of war and how disgusted he is by the atrocities that occur. This is shown as he watches the body of dead soldier get flung into a wagon as “the blood come[s] gargling from the froth-corrupted lungs” as he “drowns” on his own blood. He mocks the notion of dying for one’s country as it ends in the slaughter of good men. Meanwhile, in “And He Said Fight On”, the speaker of this poem shows as his efforts in battle are committed whole-heartedly, even though the walls of his fortress are “shattering” and his flag, the symbol of all he is fighting for is “torn to shreds”. Though it is damaged the flag still flies, and so do does this soldier to persist in the face of danger, a fact of which he is proud.