

PLAN FOR EXAM QUESTION: EXPLORE HOW SHERRIFF PRESENTS THE IMPORTANCE OF FRIENDSHIP IN JOURNEY'S END

INTRODUCTION: Play - Journey's End – set in St Quintin, France, in the trenches 1917 – written by RC Sherriff

Point 1: Stanhope and Osborne – Trusting and supportive friendship

Evidence - "I love that fellow; I'd go to hell with him" "Best company commander" "It is a big strain on a man" (embed quotations)

Explain - (QUOTE 1) Here, we see Osborne's trust and love for Stanhope, it shows he cares so much for him that he would 'go to hell with him' if needs be. You notice a clear and strong form of trust between both men.

(QUOTE 2) Here, we see that Osborne considers him very courageous and worthy of a leadership role. Lets us know he supports him in his status and believes in him very dearly.

(QUOTE 3) Worries for Stanhope – knows what he went through (add reference to Stanhope's trauma of having seen his comrades die in battle) - cares about him – supports him through his struggles – very protective

(LINK TO QUESTION AT THE END OF EXPLANATION)

Context – During WW1, men could only rely on each other – family and friends far away – lack of support – mental health frowned upon/not acknowledged – PTSD/shellshock and neuralgia ("beastly neuralgia – Hibbert) - stiff upper lip – training and propaganda made them think it was a 'game' (this should be the main part of the paragraph)

Sherriff's intent – men needed each other – had no one else – they got very close, especially in such an enclosed space – supported and helped each other – friendship was very important for them in the trenches –men needed that kindness as they knew they could die at any point as they are always 'waiting for something' - possibly last chance that they get for some sort of comfort

Audience reaction and link – A contemporary audience would be horrified to realize the struggle men were going through and surprised as men usually kept to being stoic and barely showing their pain. In this way, Sherriff shows us the importance of friendship in Journey's End using Stanhope and Osborne's comradeship.

Point 2 – Stanhope and Raleigh – Support and comfort

Evidence - "Jimmy" "It has only gone through a bit" (embed quotations)