

Cuerpo de Profesores de Enseñanza Secundaria

Especialidad 011 Inglés

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Dirección Provincial de Ceuta

Choose 3 out of the following 6 exercises.**Exercise 1**

1.1. What type of text is this? What are the main characteristics of the genre? Which parts can it be divided into?

1.2. Find three words in the text belonging to the following semantic fields:

- a. war
- b. work
- c. thinking verbs

1.3. What does the author want to symbolise when Miss Isabel Poole compares Septimus to Keats and describes his love for writing? How does this compare to Septimus's personality after the war? (100-120 words)

Exercise 2

2.1. Which literary technique does the author use throughout the whole text? How does the use of punctuation contribute to it? From which point of view is the text written? How are the characters' thoughts and words reported in the text?

2.2. Define the following words according to their meaning within the text:

- a. muddled up (line 7)
- b. stammering (line 8)
- c. clerk (line 20)
- d. hearth (line 31)
- e. gay (line 45)

2.3. Give one minimal pair for the following words from the text:

- a. lean (line 4)
- b. book (line 11)
- c. wise (line 14)
- d. pace (line 18)
- e. rug (line 31)
- f. fight (line 32)
- g. hat (line 39)
- h. feather (line 47)

Exercise 3

3.1. Give one synonym for the following words, according to their meaning within the text:

- a. hostile (line 4)
- b. anxious (line 8)
- c. to prophesy (line 22)
- d. salary (line 26)
- e. bound to (line 36)
- f. truce (line 41)

3.2. Analyse the following sentence. The analysis must include all types of phrases used, as well as simple, complex, coordinate or juxtaposed sentences:

There in the trenches the change which Mr. Brewer desired when he advised football was produced instantly; he developed manliness; he was promoted; he drew the attention and affection of his officer, Evans by name.

3.3. How did the war mentioned in the text affect British life and culture? (100-120 words)

London has swallowed up many millions of young men called Smith; thought nothing of fantastic Christian names like Septimus with which their parents have thought to distinguish them. Lodging off the Euston Road, there were experiences, again experiences, such as change a face in two years from a pink innocent oval to a face lean, contracted, hostile. But of all this what could the most observant of friends have said except what a gardener says when he opens the conservatory door in the morning and finds a new blossom on his plant:—It has flowered; flowered from vanity, ambition, idealism, passion, loneliness, courage, laziness, the usual seeds, which all muddled up [...] made him shy, and stammering, made him anxious to improve himself, made him fall in love with Miss Isabel Pole, lecturing in the Waterloo Road upon Shakespeare.

Was he not like Keats? she asked; and reflected how she might give him a taste of *Antony and Cleopatra* and the rest; lent him books; wrote him scraps of letters; and lit in him such a fire as burns only once in a lifetime, without heat, flickering a red gold flame infinitely ethereal and insubstantial over Miss Pole; *Antony and Cleopatra*; and the Waterloo Road. He thought her beautiful, believed her impeccably wise; dreamed of her, wrote poems to her, which, ignoring the subject, she corrected in red ink; he saw her, one summer evening, walking in a green dress in a square. 'It has flowered,' the gardener might have said, had he opened the door; had he come in, that is to say, any night about this time, and found him writing; found him tearing up his writing; found him finishing a masterpiece at three o'clock in the morning and running out to pace the streets, and visiting churches, and fasting one day, drinking another, devouring Shakespeare, Darwin, *The History of Civilisation*, and Bernard Shaw.

Something was up, Mr Brewer knew; Mr Brewer, managing clerk at Sibleys and Arrowsmiths, auctioneers, valuers, land and estate agents; something was up, he thought, and, being paternal with his young men, and thinking very highly of Smith's abilities, and prophesying that he would, in ten or fifteen years, succeed to the leather arm-chair in the inner room under the skylight with the deed-boxes round him, 'if he keeps his health,' said Mr Brewer, and that was the danger—he looked weakly; advised football, invited him to supper and was seeing his way to consider recommending a rise of salary, when something happened which threw out many of Mr Brewer's calculations [...].

Septimus was one of the first to volunteer. He went to France to save an England which consisted almost entirely of Shakespeare's plays and Miss Isabel Pole in a green dress walking in a square. There in the trenches the change which Mr Brewer desired when he advised football was produced instantly; he developed manliness; he was promoted; he drew the attention and affection of his officer, Evans by name. It was a case of two dogs playing on a hearth-rug [...]. They had to be together, share with each other, fight with each other, quarrel with each other. But [...] when Evans was killed, just before the Armistice, in Italy, Septimus, far from showing any emotion or recognising that here was the end of a friendship, congratulated himself upon feeling very little and very reasonably. The War had taught him. It was sublime. He had gone through the whole show, friendship, European War, death, had won promotion, was still under thirty and was bound to survive. He was right there. The last shells missed him. He watched them explode with indifference. When peace came he was in Milan, billeted in the house of an innkeeper with a courtyard, flowers in tubs, little tables in the open, daughters making hats, and to Lucrezia, the younger daughter, he became engaged one evening when the panic was on him—that he could not feel.

For now that it was all over, truce signed, and the dead buried, he had, especially in the evening, these sudden thunder-claps of fear. He could not feel. As he opened the door of the room where the Italian girls sat making hats, he could see them; could hear them; [...] he was assured of safety; he had a refuge. But he could not sit there all night. There were moments of waking in the early morning. The bed was falling; he was falling. [...] He asked Lucrezia to marry him, the younger of the two, the gay, the frivolous, with those little artist's fingers that she would hold up and say 'It is all in them.' Silk, feathers, what not were alive to them.

Exercise 4

4.1. Identify and define the stylistic devices used in the following excerpts:

- a. 'London has swallowed up many millions of young men called Smith; thought nothing of fantastic Christian names like Septimus with which their parents have thought to distinguish them.' (lines 1-2)
- b. 'made him shy, and stammering, made him anxious to improve himself, made him fall in love with Miss Isabel Pole [...]' (lines 8-9)
- c. 'such a change of face in two years from a pink innocent oval to a face lean, contracted, hostile.' (lines 3-4)
- d. 'It was a case of two dogs playing on a hearth-rug [...].' (line 31)

4.2. Give one antonym for the following words, according to their meaning within the text:

- a. to tear up (line 17)
- b. to recommend (line 25)
- c. promotion (line 36)
- d. frivolous (line 46)

4.3. Find the words or expressions from the text which match these definitions:

- a. to stay in a living space or quarters, especially temporarily
- b. to produce or yield flowers
- c. a feeling of isolation
- d. impressing the mind with a sense of grandness or power
- e. to eat only a little or no food, or certain kinds of foods, especially for religious reasons

Exercise 5

5.1. Transcribe this sentence from the text using the phonetic alphabet:

He went to France to save an England which consisted almost entirely of Shakespeare's plays and Miss Isabel Pole in a green dress walking in a square.

5.2. To which group of British intellectuals did the author belong? Explain its main characteristics (100-120 words).

5.3. Classify the following words from the text according to their morphology:

- a. observant (line 5)
- b. skylight (line 23)
- c. masterpiece (line 17)
- d. weakly (line 24)

Exercise 6

Translate the following excerpt from the text:

For now that it was all over, truce signed, and the dead buried, he had, especially in the evening, these sudden thunder-claps of fear. He could not feel. As he opened the door of the room where the Italian girls sat making hats, he could see them; could hear them; [...] he was assured of safety; he had a refuge. But he could not sit there all night. There were moments of waking in the early morning. The bed was falling; he was falling. [...] He asked Lucrezia to marry him, the younger of the two, the gay, the frivolous, with those little artist's fingers that she would hold up and say 'It is all in them.' Silk, feathers, what not were alive to them.