

By the end of studying **Act 2 scene 2** of Journeys End, I need to know:

Plot: Stanhope orders Sergeant-Major to put barbed wire up. The Colonel tells Stanhope that his company must conduct a raid which Raleigh and Osborne will lead. Hibbert insists that he need to go to a hospital to recover from neuralgia, but Stanhope convinces him to stay by challenging his masculinity and claims that he also suffers from neuralgia. Stanhope

Ideas: Manipulative nature of senior officials. Challenging masculinity to manipulate men to fight. Raleigh is naïve as he has been manipulated by propoganda into thinking that the tells Osborne about the raid. Trotter and Osborne agree not to tell Raleigh how dangerous it will be.

Vocabulary	<p>Boche- German soldier Neuralgia- is a stabbing, burning, and often severe pain due to an irritated or damaged nerve. Flank- sides of their boundaries</p>
Context (To inform interpretation)	<p>Propaganda- The Government needed to recruit lots of soldiers and wanted people to work together. So, what the public thought about the war really mattered. They tried hard to persuade people to think in a certain way. Posters were printed that made the army look exciting. Other posters told men it was their duty to join and they would feel proud if they did and others would be proud of them.</p> <p>Expectations of men- The propoganda would have perpetuated the expectation that all men should, and would, fight; those who refused would be deemed cowards. Therefore, the idea of showing fear would be seen as alien; this is something reflected in both Stanhope's and Hibbert's actions.</p> <p>Court Marshal- The expectations of soldiers was that they followed the orders of their seniors. If a soldier refused to then they could be court marshaled. This process involved a formal trial which, if the defended was found guilty, would lead to the execution of the soldier. Sometimes those who would execute would be soldiers from either their own regiment; accounts of court marshals reveal that often soldiers performing the executions would get drunk beforehand or deliberately shoot wide so as not to inflict the fatal shot.</p> <p>Shell Shock- As soldiers returned from the front line, it became clear that some were suffering from the psychological effect of war. This would be known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in modern day, however this was an unknown condition. Many who returned who lived through the war were horrifically scarred.</p>
Themes	<p>Futility of war- Osborne and Trotter agree not to tell Raleigh that the raid is 'murder', suggesting that the raid is pointless as death is inevitable. Masculinity- Stanhope's questioning of Hibbert's masculinity shows how shameful leaving the army is. Fear/Cowardice- Hibbert's fear leads to cowardice to the point where he feels that he can't cope. Manipulation- Stanhope manipulates Hibbert by questioning his masculinity. The Colonel manipulates Stanhope into agreeing to let Raleigh go on the raid by suggesting that he could send a soldier from another company. Treatment of soldiers by senior officials- The colonel says that Stanhope can't go on the raid and must send Osborne and Raleigh, suggesting that Stanhope is useful to him but Osborne is old and Raleigh is inexperienced but young and enthusiastic so not as useful when the big attack happens. Cope- whereas Stanhope, Osborne and Trotter all have coping mechanisms, Hibbert doesn't, which highlights how important it is to have a coping mechanism to get through the war. Comaraderie- admitting his fear to Hibbert and offering to go on duty with him, Stanhope shows comradery by trying to make Hibbert feel that he is not alone and is supporting him.</p>
Deeper understanding	<p>Disregard of Senior Officials- The nature of the raid reinforces the disregard senior officials had for the lives of soldiers in World War One. The Colonel states how 'a surprise daylight raid would be best', despite knowing (as an experienced offer) that a raid in daylight would make it more likely that the men get killed. Sherriff is criticising the bureaucracy here- identified by Stanhope when he criticises how the Brigadier couldn't possibly eat his dinner late. To exacerbate this, the plans to prepare for the attack ultimately make it more likely that the men will die: the Colonel orders only one hole to be blown in the German wire by the tochemmas, thus revealing to the Germans not only that a raid is imminent but also the entry point; equally, the plan to 'blow smoke across' just before the raid will in fact alert the Germans, who are already expecting a raid, exactly when it will happen. This is something later revealed in the Stage Directions in Act 3 Scene 1 when the smoke guns explode, followed 'almost immediately by machine gun fire'- the gunfire of ready Germans. When Trotter describes how a raid further down the line on the previous day was 'murder' he reveals the above to the audience- as the Germans tied red rags around the hole to intimidated the soldiers, even after which the command was still given. Again, as an</p>

Reading:
Stanhope- Company commanding officer
Osborne- second in command
Officers- Hibbert, Trotter and Raleigh

Links across the text:
Raleigh (act 1) – “It’s—it’s not exactly what I thought. It’s just this—this quiet that seems so funny” – shows inaction and anticipation, unlike how propoganda presented the war.
Osborne (Act 1) – “People pay with a bottle of whisky for the morbid curiosity of seeing him drink it.” – Stanhope’s coping mechanism is alcohol and he drinks so much that people pay to watch him and for the amusement.
Stanhope (Act 3)- “To forget, you little fool—to forget!” Stanhope admits to Raleigh that drinking is his way of coping, more so now that Osborne has died, which he is struggling to cope with.

	<p>experienced officer the Colonel is aware of this; he simply does not care. Equally, his selection of Raleigh for the raid- being a 'youngster' and 'those usually do best' reinforces his disregard; he knows Raleigh will blindly charge into the German trench unaware of the horror about to unfold. It's worthy noting, as mentioned in Act 3 Scene 1- that the tochemmas blowing a hole in the barbed wire 'upset the wiring party', men who Stanhope directed to add extra barbed wire along the trenches in order to provide an extra layer of protection during the big attack. Not only are the conditions of the raid not conducive to success, they are also making it more likely for the men to die in the German offense (the Battle of St Quentin). Trotter doesn't understand the point in Osborne reading 'Alice in Wonderland' as it's pointless. However, Osborne is reading it for that very reason, suggesting that Osborne copes by comparing the pointlessness of 'Alice in Wonderland' to the war.</p> <p>Expectations around masculinity- Stanhope has clearly been indoctrinated by the expectations of masculinity inherent both in the society and also perpetuated by the propaganda. This is evident through his words as he attempts to convince Hibbert to stay, he relates how Hibbert would 'never look another man in the eye again', reflecting the feeling of shame Hibbert would feel if he left- being tarnished a coward, but also how Hibbert would himself never be able to see himself as a man. Whilst Stanhope acknowledges Hibbert's fears, as he does his own, he never truly discusses them- instead resorting to laughter and belittling of those fears- suggesting that they'll 'jump every time they hear a mouse squeak'. This further reinforces how Stanhope is afraid of discussing his fears, at least to others- rather than owning and accepting them he belittles them. Equally, he 'pours Hibbert a whiskey' in order to convince him to go up on duty, attempting to share his coping mechanism with him in the hope it gets him to stay. However, as we see in Act 3 Scene 2 and Act 3 Scene 3- alcohol only offers a temporary solution. By contrast, Osborne appears far more effective within his coping mechanism. His decision to write a letter to his wife and then read 'Alice in Wonderland' speaks of practicality and logic. Osborne wishes to distract himself and escape through reading- the fact that he reads, as Trotter suggests 'a kid's book', offers a considerable detachment to the world of war around him. However, it also suggests how comfortable he is with his own masculinity- when Trotter challenges or questions his choice, Osborne instead mocks him rather than is offended. This further separates Osborne, as an older character, from the expectations of masculinity enforced upon the younger characters.</p> <p>Stanhope as a caring officer- At no point in this scene is Stanhope willing/ intending to kill Hibbert; much rather he is attempting to coerce Hibbert into staying- possibly because he is aware that, if Hibbert does abscond, he will be court marshalled. His behaviour during this scene- provoking Hibbert by shoving him, holding his revolver in his hand, looking at his watch as he counts down- is intended to make Hibbert give up. However, Hibbert's desire to leave, and loathing of life in the trenches, means that Hibbert would rather die.</p> <p>The impact of the raid on Stanhope's mental health-In Act 2 Scene 1, Osborne reveals how the Colonel is aware of the 'strain' war is placing on Stanhope; however, despite being aware of this he still asks Stanhope to select men for the raid and explicitly prevents Stanhope from choosing himself. Here, Stanhope is effectively being asked to do what he was ordered to do at Vimy Ridge- send men to their deaths; this was the event that initially led Stanhope to start drinking. Stanhope's choice to ask for volunteers reflects this; he doesn't want to have to choose but would rather let the men select themselves. Equally, when Stanhope tells Osborne about the raid his response is 'why Raleigh?'- he doesn't question Stanhope's 'decision' to send Osborne; this is because he is aware of the heart-breaking nature of the decision and doesn't wish to burden Stanhope with it. This is yet another example of the silent and subtle camaraderie between the soldiers.</p>
<p>Quotes and references</p>	<p>"Could you ever look a man straight in the face again- in all your life"- rhetorical question to manipulate Hibbert. "Hello uncle"- Osborne wants to create a sense of family and comfort for the men. "sunlight has gone from the dugout"- pathetic fallacy suggesting something bad/negative. "There's no need to tell him it's murder"- metaphor showing how dangerous and scary the raid is. "It's most frightfully exciting"- Raleigh's naivety stemming from propaganda.</p>
<p>Terminology</p>	<p>Pathetic fallacy Metaphor Rhetorical questions Stage directions</p>

Links across the text:

The Raid (Act 3 Scene 1) – Just like the raid the other day, in this raid the Germans tie red rags around the hole in the barbed wire. Despite what happened in that raid, the orders are still given to proceed- again reinforcing the disregard senior officials have.

Stanhope does indeed ask for volunteers- all of whom are young (and inexperienced/ naïve)

Hibbert (Act 3 Scene 2/ Act 3 Scene 3) – Stanhope provides Hibbert with alcohol as a coping mechanism for war. This offers a temporary fix- as evidenced by Hibbert's behaviour in Act 3 Scene 2; however, Sherriff reminds us of the temporary nature of this when he reverts back to his fears in Act 3 Scene 3.