POETRY ESSAY

SAMPLE INTRODUCTION

Six million men and women lost their lives during World War II. Mothers lost their sons, fathers lost their daughters, husbands and wives lost each other, brothers and sisters were exterminated and gone forever. Louis Simpson’s powerfully moving poem “The Battle” depicts the lives of everyday soldiers in war—from what they faced to how they felt. Through several poetic devices and a harsh, negative tone, the theme that war destroys soldiers’ lives and forever changes the environment surrounding soldiers is exemplified.

CONCLUSION

War is hell—without it, life would be much more desirable. Louis Simpson’s poem “The Battle” clearly describes what it would be like to march in battle, weighed down by equipment, cold, guilt, and grief. Simpson’s use of visual imagery, onomatopoeia, and similes, help to create a sad, somber, serious tone that demonstrates the horrors of war. One should never have to face these atrocities, but the reality is: soldiers must survive—kill or be killed, no matter what the harshness of war aims at them.