

ORAL INTERPRETATION RECORDED ASSIGNMENT

Read each of the following three pieces several times. Try to discover the meaning of each. Mark the poetry selections (I and III) in the manner indicated in your packet pp. 448-9 and practiced with the "Preparing Oral Interpretation" directions. Mark the prose section (II) as indicated on pp. 441-2 in your packet. **This marked copy is required and will comprise a portion of your score for this activity.** Understand the mood and analyze its rhythm.

After practicing, record each of the three segments in order. You could use a tape recorder, burn a CD, record on a school MAC with Garage Band to save to your network folder, or send it as a media file attached to an email to tkelly@pgsd.org. Use your voice as an instrument of interpretation to bring out the meaning, mood, and rhythm.

I.



War Is Kind by Stephen Crane

Do not weep, maiden, for war is kind.
Because your lover threw wild hands toward the sky
And the affrighted steed ran on alone,
Do not weep.
War is kind.

5

Hoarse, booming drums of the regiment,
Little souls who thirst for fight,
These men were born to drill and die.
The unexplained glory flies above them,
Great is the battle-god, great, and his kingdom –
A field where a thousand corpses lie.

10

Do not weep, babe, for war is kind.
Because your father tumbled in the yellow trenches,
Raged at his breast, gulped and died,
Do not weep.
War is kind.

15

Swift blazing flag of the regiment,
Eagle with crest of red and gold,
These men were born to drill and die.
Point for them the virtue of slaughter,
Make plain to them the excellence of killing
And a field where a thousand corpses lie.

20

Mother whose heart hung humble as a button
On the bright splendid shroud of your son,
Do not weep.
War is kind.

25