

I think the words barren and stark suggest that the battlefield was extreme and empty and also that it lacks signs of life.

I think the word is shield and its a good word because it describes two meanings of shield, a physical shield and a shield meaning protecting you from the danger and to cover you.

I think the word in the text that means temporary/do it yourself is makeshift.

The soldiers have to hide from the enemy and each other.

Another example of alliteration from the text is sand and stone.

The men are standing in the trenches because they are hiding from the enemy.

Where The Poppies Now Grow



This is the battlefield, barren and stark
A stage for war, dangerous and dark
To be charged by armies joined up by men
Men like Ray and his old friend Ben
Who march by the makeshift aerodrome
With barricades of sand and stone
That shield the trenches used for cover
To hide from the enemy and each other,
Built by Ray and his best friend Ray
Who were two of the children that liked to play
Out in the field where the poppies now grow

Harriet Smith

I think the men are feeling terrified because they might get killed and they have to kill people and that's not easy or fun.

The bright illustrations have been replaced by dark colours because the war is dark and depressing not colourful and happy.

In the first part of the verse it's quicker and tense but in the second part it's slower and calmer. Words like dangerous and dark create empathy because it makes you understand how scared the men must have been. The final two lines also create empathy because it reminds you of what they boys did before the war started.

The author is saying that the battlefield is like a stage where a play is taking place and that the soldiers are actors in the play.

I think the use of rhyming is effective because it flows and builds up quite nicely and it creates emotion when you are reading it.