Alliteration, Personification, Point of View, and Satire

Purpose: Upon completion of this activity, students will be able to identify alliteration, personification, point of view, and satire in a poem. This DLA should take approximately 45 minutes to 1 hour to complete.

1. Go to the reception desk and check out The Bedford Introduction to Literature by Michael Meyer. You will need a student ID card or a driver’s license to check this book out for use in the lab.

2. Turn to the glossary and look up to review these literary terms: alliteration, personification, point of view, and satire. On the back of this sheet, write definitions of these terms in your own words.

3. Read the following poem:

   “Glory of Women” by Siegfried Sassoon

   You love us when we’re heroes, home on leave,
   Or wounded in a mentionable place.
   You worship decorations; you believe
   That chivalry redeems the war’s disgrace.
   You make us shells. You listen with delight,
   By tales of dirt and danger fondly thrilled.
   You crown our distant ardours while we fight,
   And mourn our laurelled memories when we’re killed.
   You can’t believe that British troops ‘retire’
   When hell’s last horror breaks them, and they run,
   Trampling the terrible corpses—blind with blood.
   O German mother dreaming by the fire,
   While you are knitting socks to send your son
   His face is trodden deeper in the mud.

4. Answer the following questions:

   i. In what point of view is this poem written? To whom is it written?

   ii. Write out examples of alliteration.

   iii. Where does the author use subtle personification?

   iv. How do you know that this is a satire?
5. Take the book and meet with a professor to go over your answers and discuss WHY the author uses these literary devices in his poem. How do they add to the overall meaning of his poem?

Attach a confirmation sheet or get a signature below:

Instructor Signature: __________________________ Date: ______________________