

## Mattia Romano – 4ALS *Death in Mere Bones*

In this text I'm going to discuss people's idea of the war after the First World War.

In order to do this I'm going to analyse an extract "MERE BONES" taken from the novel "The Unknown Warrior".

The text tells about the selection of the Unknown Warrior's body and its journey, from France to England.

In particular, to connote people's idea of the war, I'm going to focus on the language used by the speaking voice.

Reading the text, a reader immediately realizes that the speaking voice uses language to create a respectful and dignified atmosphere.

Just from the title, "MERE BONES", an intelligent reader can understand that the speaking voice refers to the ones of the fallen ones during the First World War.

The speaking voice uses the adjective "*mere*" to convey the politicians' point of view.

Indeed, they declared war sending to death millions of soldiers. They only saw the soldiers as "*Mere Bones*" to reach what they wanted. The derogatory choice of language symbolically adds to meaning. In particular, a reader can observe that the speaking voice describes the decorations of the Unknown Warrior's coffin. For example, he says "*the coffin was decorated with flags and palms, its floor strewn with autumn flowers and leaves*".

Thanks to the information an intelligent reader can infer people felt real respect for the Unknown Soldier and as a result for all fallen in war.

Therefore people are given a negative idea of the war, and politicians use war memorials almost to apologize for their mistakes.

In conclusion, reading the text, I am able to affirm that the speaking voice uses the language to convey and share an unbearable and violent idea of the war and therefore directly connected with death.