**Read ‘The Basics’ about *War Photographer,* then re-read the poem before answering the following questions:**

1. The poem is set out in four stanzas, each containing six lines. How do you think this reflects the photographer’s methods? (Clue: look at l**ine 2** of the poem!)
2. Despite the ordered structure of the poem, the use of **caesura**  (breaks / punctuation *within* a line of poetry) and **enjambment** (lines and stanzas running into each other, without punctuation at the end of lines) gives the poem a more broken-up and staccato feel. How might this technique reflect the deeper feelings of the photographer?
3. Re-write the whole of the first stanza in the first person (‘In my darkroom, **I am** finally alone…’). How does this change the overall feel of the poem, and why do you think Duffy has avoided this approach?
4. Explain Duffy’s use of a simile to compare the photographer in his darkroom to a priest ‘preparing to intone a mass.’
5. What point is Duffy making, in stanza 2, in describing the photographer’s hands?
6. How does Duffy draw attention to contrasts between the photographer’s home and his places of work in **lines 9 to 12**?
7. In the third stanza, Duffy describes how the images gradually become visible in the darkroom. What else this might be a metaphor for in terms of the photographer’s experiences?
8. Re-read **lines 15-20**. Pick a line or an image in this stanza that contrasts with a one from the first stanza. What point do you feel Duffy is making by showing this contrast?
9. Two more characters – the photographer’s editor and the reader – are referred to in the last stanza. What do these two characters have in common, and how does Duffy suggest that their experiences / attitudes may differ from the photogrpahers?

**Speaking and Listening: In pairs, use the poem as a source for creating an interview with a war photographer. Why did he choose this job? What does he feel when he sees atrocities and devastation? What frustrates him about the job and what is rewarding? You could add some more research of your own here.**

**EXTENSION 1: Overall, do you feel that Duffy presents the photographger in a sympathetic light? Look over your previous notes / ansers to help you with this question: you could draw up a table with tetxtual evidence that supports or goes against this idea.**

**EXTENSION 2: *War Photographer* compares in many interesting ways to *Remains.* Draw up a table of similarities and differences, remembering to include points about structure, language and techniques, as well as ones about subject matter.**



*poem by poem* QUESTIONS

***War Photographer***byCarol Ann Duffy