“The hero”, Siegfried Sassoon

**Group 1**
Find adjectives and verbs describing...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jack</th>
<th>The mother</th>
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<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; stanza</td>
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<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; stanza</td>
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<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; stanza</td>
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How do the adjectives and verbs describing Jack evolve?

How is the mother presented?

How can you explain the title of the poem? Is it: *ironic – sincere – praising*
Justify:

**Group 2: Focus on stanza 1**
Find a synonym in the poem for “Jack fell” = ____________

“We mothers are so proud / of our dead soldiers.” *In this sentence,*

☐ the mother expresses her deep sadness
☐ the mother represses her great grief (=chagrin)
☐ the mother doesn’t understand her son is dead

How is the mother presented? *WEAK / STRONG / BROKEN-HEARTED / DIGNIFIED / DEVASTATED*
Justify:

“______________________: “___________________________________________”

“______________________: “___________________________________________”

“______________________: “___________________________________________”

“___________________________________________”
**Group 3: Focus on stanza 2**

Is the Brother Officer: **embarrassed / at ease**?

Find words to justify: ________________________________________________________________

Focus on line 12. What sound is repeated? [___]

What literary means is it? __________________________________________________________

Why is it used here? ______________________________________________________________

What are the mother's feelings? ______________________________________________________

Explain what you understood in this stanza:

________________________________________________________________________________

**Group 4: Focus on stanza 3**

Look at Sassoon's biography. Why did he choose the name “Jack” in his poem? Isn't it slightly (légerement) ironic? Why?

Find a word describing Jack's reaction: ________________

What did he do? _________________________________________________________________

What happened to him? ___________________________________________________________

In this stanza, Jack is depicted as... **a coward**  **a hero**?

The tone is... **despising**  **contemptuous**  **praising**?

Justify with words from the poem: ______________________________________________________

Explain why the soldier's death is far from heroic:

________________________________________________________________________________

How is the image “blown to small bits” reverberated on line 16?

________________________________________________________________________________