**AO2 Advanced Therapy - Structure**

**This assessment objective asks you to explain *what* an author is focussing on in different parts of the extract and *why* they are doing it. A good way to think of it is when you watch a film, look at the camera angles in different parts: when does the film use closeups/zoom in? When do they zoom out and show us a wide angle? When you read the extract, imagine what it would look like as a film.**

***This extract is taken from a book called White Fang. Here, two men are out in the wild with their dogs and run into some trouble.***

The day began auspiciously. They had lost no dogs during the night, and they swung out upon the trail and into the silence, the darkness, and the cold with spirits that were fairly light. Bill seemed to have forgotten his forebodings of the previous night, and even waxed facetious with the dogs when, at midday, they overturned the sled on a bad piece of trail.

It was an awkward mix-up. The sled was upside down and jammed between a tree-trunk and a huge rock, and they were forced to unharness the dogs in order to straighten out the tangle. The two men were bent over the sled and trying to right it, when Henry observed One Ear sidling away.

“Here, you, One Ear!” he cried, straightening up and turning around on the dog.

But One Ear broke into a run across the snow, his traces trailing behind him. And there, out in the snow of their back track, was the she-wolf waiting for him. As he neared her, he became suddenly cautious. He slowed down to an alert and mincing walk and then stopped. He regarded her carefully and dubiously, yet desirefully. She seemed to smile at him, showing her teeth in an ingratiating rather than a menacing way. She moved toward him a few steps, playfully, and then halted. One Ear drew near to her, still alert and cautious, his tail and ears in the air, his head held high.

He tried to sniff noses with her, but she retreated playfully and coyly. Every advance on his part was accompanied by a corresponding retreat on her part. Step by step she was luring him away from the security of his human companionship. Once, as though a warning had in vague ways flitted through his intelligence, he turned his head and looked back at the overturned sled, at his team-mates, and at the two men who were calling to him.

But whatever idea was forming in his mind, was dissipated by the she-wolf, who advanced upon him, sniffed noses with him for a fleeting instant, and then resumed her coy retreat before his renewed advances.

In the meantime, Bill had bethought himself of the rifle. But it was jammed beneath the overturned sled, and by the time Henry had helped him to right the load, One Ear and the she-wolf were too close together and the distance too great to risk a shot.

Too late One Ear learned his mistake. Before they saw the cause, the two men saw him turn and start to run back toward them. Then, approaching at right angles to the trail and cutting off his retreat they saw a dozen wolves, lean and grey, bounding across the snow. On the instant, the she-wolf’s coyness and playfulness disappeared. With a snarl she sprang upon One Ear. He thrust her off with his shoulder, and, his retreat cut off and still intent on regaining the sled, he altered his course in an attempt to circle around to it. More wolves were appearing every moment and joining in the chase. The she-wolf was one leap behind One Ear and holding her own.

“Where are you goin’?” Henry suddenly demanded, laying his hand on his partner’s arm.

Bill shook it off. “I won’t stand it,” he said. “They ain’t a-goin’ to get any more of our dogs if I can help it.”

The most effective way of approaching this question is to think about it in three sections:

1. The start
2. The development
3. The ending

**Task:**

Begin by boxing off these sections and annotating the focus (the ‘what’) and *why* the author might have chosen to have the focus in each place.

**Task:**

Moving into advanced, the key is to look for the more subtle nuances of the text. Now consider the impact of the following, and add this to your annotations:

1. The subtlety of the foreshadowing in the opening paragraph (1-4)
2. The development and complexity of the relationship between the man and his dog (9-19)
3. The way in which the theme of fear is explored throughout the extract

**Task:**

Write a response to the question- how has the writer structured the text to interest you as a reader? Use your annotations from the previous task to enhance your answer.

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| The **opening** of the extract | In the extract’s opening, the writer establishes |
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| This forces us to question |
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| The **development** of the extract | As the extract develops, the focus shifts to |
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| The writer is trying to |
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| The **ending** of the extract | At the extract ends, the focus is |
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| Here, the writer is deliberately trying to |
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