**AO2 Secure Therapy**

**Finding language features in unseen extracts**

Language features won’t always be obvious, especially within 19th century texts, so it is important that you begin to develop strategies to help you tackle A02 within your response.

Sometimes simple language features can work well if they help you to make a more detailed or complex inference. Below are three examples of simple language features found in *Jane Eyre* that describe Mr. Rochester. Use the example to create your own inferences / explanations.

**Adjective**: “his grim mouth, chin, and jaw—yes, all three were very grim, and no mistake.”

*Mr Rochester is shown to be uninviting in this quotation. Brontë uses the adjective “grim” to describe his physical appearance, and this shows that Rochester’s moody personality has even begun to affect the way that he looks, thus making him a typical Byronic Hero.*

**Verb**: “I don't think, sir, you have a right to command me”

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**Adverb**: “…he mastered it directly and sprang to his saddle…"

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Now let’s practise by looking at a short section of the novel. Read the extract below and find an example of each of the following features:

Adverb

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Adjective

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Exclamatory sentence

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A fierce cry seemed to give the lie to her favourable report: the clothed hyena rose up, and stood tall on its hind-feet.

"Ah! sir, she sees you!" exclaimed Grace: "you'd better not stay."

"Only a few moments, Grace: you must allow me a few moments."

"Take care then, sir!—for God's sake, take care!"

The maniac bellowed: she parted her shaggy locks from her visage, and gazed wildly at her visitors. I recognised well that purple face,—those bloated features. Mrs. Poole advanced.

"Keep out of the way," said Mr. Rochester, thrusting her aside: "she has no knife now, I suppose, and I'm on my guard."

"One never knows what she has, sir: she is so cunning: it is not in mortal discretion to fathom her craft."

"We had better leave her," whispered Mason.

"Go to the devil!" was his brother-in-law's recommendation.

"'Ware!" cried Grace. The three gentlemen retreated simultaneously. Mr. Rochester flung me behind him: the lunatic sprang and grappled his throat viciously, and laid her teeth to his cheek: they struggled. She was a big woman, in stature almost equalling her husband, and corpulent besides: she showed virile force in the contest—more than once she almost throttled him, athletic as he was. He could have settled her with a well-planted blow; but he would not strike: he would only wrestle. At last he mastered her arms; Grace Poole gave him a cord, and he pinioned them behind her: with more rope, which was at hand, he bound her to a chair. The operation was performed amidst the fiercest yells and the most convulsive plunges. Mr. Rochester then turned to the spectators: he looked at them with a smile both acrid and desolate.

It’s important that once you have identified language features, you link them back to the question and describe their effect. Below is an example of a question that you could be asked about the novel.

How does Brontë present the character of Bertha in *Jane Eyre*?

* Talk about how Bertha is presented in this extract.
* Talk about how Bertha is presented in the whole novel.

Write a paragraph below explaining how Brontë uses one of the language features that you identified to describe Bertha.

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**Emphasis through comparison**

Often the writer will make a description of a character seem exaggerated by contrasting them with another character who appears in the same extract, page or chapter. These characters will often appear together in the novel or be natural opposites. It is important to revise these paired characters for your exam as they will help to show your broader knowledge.

Show your ability to identify these differences and explain why they occur by filling in the table below. Some of the boxes have been filled in for you.

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| **How is Bertha presented?*****Give a quotation and a brief explanation*** | **How is Rochester presented?*****Give a quotation and a brief explanation*** | **Why does the writer make this comparison?** |
| “the lunatic sprang” makes it clear that Bertha is insane and wild. | “I'm on my guard” shows that Rochester is nervous about his wife and finds her unpredictable. | Emphasises that Bertha is intimidating, even to her husband, who is a fully grown man. The writer wants us to realise how strong she is. |
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**Linking together your points.**

In order to show your understanding of how the author creates a much larger picture of a character, it is important that you begin to link your ideas to show a larger theme or idea. One of the important ways that Brontë presents Bertha in the novel is as an animal.

Now try writing two new paragraphs using the skills that you developed in the previous task. Remember to answer the overarching question and make reference to specific language techniques used.

E.g. Bertha is presented as being animalistic through the writer’s use of… this description is further emphasised by the direct contrast to… who is presented as…

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