**AO2 Base Testing**

Read this extract from later on in the story that you read in the therapy.

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| A young woman doctor came in and found us. She was about twenty-five years old, and looked as though she hadn’t had a good night’s sleep since medical school. She was vaguely sympathetic, but brisk, business-like, as honest as a car wreck.  ‘Patrick is in a stable condition, but with such a severe blow to the head we have to take X-rays and a brain scan. What I’m worried about is the possibility of a depressed fracture to the skull – that’s when the skull is cracked and bony fragments are driven inwards, causing pressure on the brain. I’m not saying that’s happened. I’m saying it’s a possibility.  ‘Jesus Christ.’  Cyd took my hand and squeezed it.  ‘This is going to take a while,’ the doctor said. ‘If you and your wife would like to stay with your son tonight, there’s time to go home and get some things.’  ‘Oh,’ Cyd said. ‘We’re not married.’  The doctor looked at me and studied her chart.  ‘You’re Patrick’s father, Mr Silver?’  ‘Yes.’  ‘I’m just a friend,’ Cyd said. ‘I should go,’ she told me, standing up. I could tell that she thought she was getting in the way. But she wasn’t at all. She was the only thing keeping me from falling apart.  ‘And the child’s mother?’ the doctor asked.  ‘She’s out of the country,’ I said. ‘Temporarily out of the country.’  ‘You might want to call her,’ the doctor said. |

How does the writer use language to create tension?

* Ensure that you have an overall point about the tension (i.e. why it is tense overall)
* Ensure that you have three pieces of evidence where you have zoomed in and clearly explained the effect/deeper meaning/connotation of specific words and phrases

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| Overall point | Overall, |
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| First major point | Initially, |
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| Second major point (linked) | Additionally, |
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| Third major point (linked) | Finally, |
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