

Write your answers to Section A Questions (a) and (b) here:

a) Harper Lee uses several effective language techniques to influence the reader's view of Jem's relationship with his family. In the extract, Jem loses his temper and ruins Mrs. Dubose's garden, an act which makes Atticus ashamed of him. The language features used help the reader to understand more about Jem's relationship with his father.

The descriptive adverb "snatched" implies to the reader that Jem's actions are sudden and vigorous, which prove his great intent in attempting to defend Atticus. His startling actions are emphasised further by the ~~adjective~~^{verb} and adverb "flailing wildly", which give the reader a good idea of Jem's anger and madness.

Clearly, Harper Lee is portraying Jem's actions as a moment of sudden violent actions in which he clearly loses his temper. The writer, by using repetition of the word "forgetting" in a use of the 'rule of three', is emphasising how unusual Jem's actions are, showing how surprised Scout is at his outburst.

The short sentence "by that time I was shrieking" is a clear implication of the massive ~~effect~~^{influence} that Jem has on Scout. Due to the verb "shrieking" being used by Harper

(Section A continued)

Lee, it is clear to the reader that Scout is shocked and disturbed by Jem's unsightly actions, which proves her respect and love for him. As it is a short sentence, Scout's emotions are emphasised to the reader and we realise the depth of the sibling's relationship with each other.

Preceding the events with Jem's outburst is Harper Lee's metaphorical phrase "Two geological ages later". The extreme exaggeration of this statement allows the reader to get an ~~affection~~ implication of the slow speed in which time seems to be travelling for Scout at this point. Furthermore, the reader can understand because of this metaphor that if time seemed to be ~~of~~ passing slowly, the awkwardness between Jem and Scout must be high, a feeling that both are hoping to be broken soon, proving that behind Jem's anger, he still loves Scout.

The writer's use of the simile "His voice was like the winter wind" to give the reader an insight into ~~the~~ Atticus' fury and disappointment. ~~He was shouting~~ By this, the reader can see that due to Atticus' care for his son, he is affected greatly by his ~~unsuspected~~ actions.

Jem's vulnerability is shown to the reader by the adverb "softly". In contrast to how he speaks to Scout, he speaks in a timid way to his father, proving ^{to the reader} his respect for him. Clearly, he is ashamed by what he has done, mainly because it has displeased his father; it is obvious to the reader that Jem wants to please Atticus, and the ~~an~~ adverb "softly" seems almost a sense of

(Section A continued)

resignation as well as inferiority.

Throughout the extract, Harper Lee uses several language features in order to show the reader his relationships with both Scout and Atticus.

b) Another part of the novel in which relationships in the Finch family are portrayed through the writer's use of language features is the incident in which ~~Atticus~~ Tom and Scout witness Atticus shoot a mad dog in the street in Chapter Ten.

Harper Lee demonstrates the children's shock in the phrase "Tom and I nearly fainted". This emphasis of their surprise and awe at ~~seeing~~ the mention of Atticus with a gun shows that Atticus has brought his children up to believe that their father is a man of peace, ~~not~~ a man who has nothing to do with anything of a violent nature.

The writer uses Atticus' protests "I haven't shot a gun in thirty years" to illustrate his reluctance to ~~shoot~~ shoot a gun in front of his children. It is doubtful that he is unconfident in his abilities; it seems to the reader that his excuses are only in the interests of his son not to take part in violence, especially in front of his children.

The metaphor "in a fog" illustrates ^{to} the reader Scout's amazement of her father, and that she almost had the sense of unreality. The phrase "time had slowed to a nauseating crawl" emphasises the significance of the moment ^{for} Scout to the readers.

(Section A continued)

she is evidently completely ~~shocked~~ shocked and taken aback, which proves her portrayal that Atticus is a man who would never do what he is doing. The word "nauseating" shows the reader that Scout's shock is at such an extent that it makes her feel almost unwell, and that her feeling of tension as she sees Atticus with the gun is almost sickening her, proving her views on the entirely non-violent Atticus, she thought she knew.

The short sentence "We saw his body go rigid" indicates to the reader that Atticus feels tense and almost unnerved by the fact that his children are watching him shoot a gun. We can learn from this that Atticus cares greatly for his children and that he doesn't wish for them to feel that violence is good. Furthermore, we can see from his tension that he is concerned that he is being slightly hypocritical towards Jem and Scout, as he teaches them that violence is bad and yet is holding a gun now. Atticus clearly cares greatly about his children's respect for him.

Atticus' excellence with a gun is revealed by the writer's description "with movements so swift they seemed simultaneous", which emphasises ~~how~~ how Scout is impressed with her father's skill. Clearly, Scout has a newfound respect for Atticus due to his expertness with a gun, as does Jem, who proves this with his exclamation "Atticus is a gentleman, just like me!", a quote that tells the reader that Jem also understands Atticus' choice not to tell them about his skill.

This incident with the mad dog is a ~~significant~~ part of the

(Section A continued)

novel in which we learn much about Atticus' relationship with Scout and Jem because of the effective language techniques used by Harper Lee.

(Section A continued)

(Section A continued)

(Section A continued)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 40 MARKS