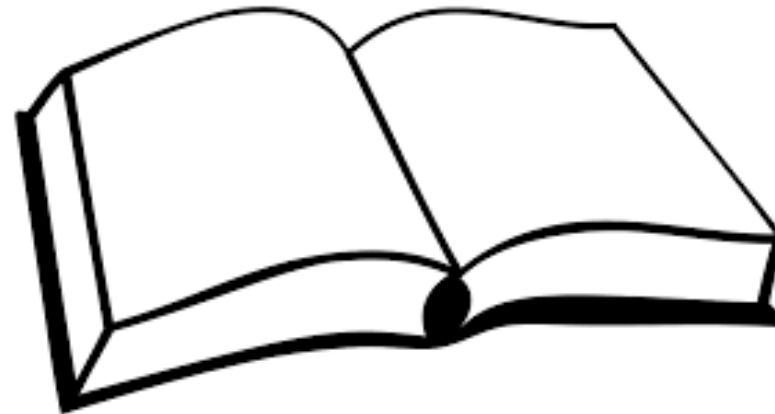




# English Language Out Of Hours Reading Intervention



## Extract – ‘The Outcast’



THE HARDER  
YOU WORK  
FOR SOMETHING,  
THE GREATER  
YOU'LL FEEL  
WHEN YOU  
ACHIEVE IT.

- The Outcast – Sadie Jones
- The Bibles were easy to light and the velvet curtain behind the choir stall was dry and old, but he couldn't find a way of lighting the wood of the pews with just matches, so he broke into a storeroom at the back and found the paraffin for the heaters that were kept there. The paraffin lit easily and there was enough of it to douse the whole place, and he poured it over everything and the floor, and watched the flames racing and meeting each other.
- When the fire had really got started, when the flames were huge and nothing was going to stop them, it still wasn't enough. The wood was blistering in the heat, the varnish bubbled and giant candles ran liquid clear over the floor. The heat was pushing him back to the door. It wasn't enough. It was nothing.
- Outside, the night was calm and he drenched the unmoved graves with paraffin and the flaming grass was smoky and green-smelling. He tried to tear the gravestones loose and to break his hands and his head against them. It wasn't enough. Nothing was enough and he was at the end of it. He had lost, and there was nothing left, and he lay on his mother's grave and cried, and tried to climb into the ground, because in his stupid darkness he thought that was the only way to find peace.

# Mark which statements are true + false – 4 each

- The silk curtain was dry and old.
- The storeroom was at the front of the church.
- The paraffin was kept in the storeroom.
- With the paraffin, it was easy to start the fire.
- The heat was pushing him towards the wall.
- He tried to tear the gravestones loose.
- He lay in his mother's grave.
- He thought the darkness was the only way to feel peace.

# Use of sentence structure



- Find 2 complex sentences used to describe the flames. Mark these on extract.
- Why do you think complex sentences reflect the fire effectively?
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
- Find 2 short sentences.
- What does this show about the boy's feelings?
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_

# Language features – Para 1

- Find 2 examples of the flames being personified in Para 1.

- 1 - \_\_\_\_\_

- What does this show?

- \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 2 - \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Language features – Para 2

- What adjective is used to describe the flames in Para 2? \_\_\_\_\_
- What does this show? \_\_\_\_\_
  
- Find the triplet in Para 2.
- What does this show about the fire? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- How is the heat personified again? How does it make it seem aggressive?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
- \_\_\_\_\_

# Language features – Para 3

- How is there a contrast created with the night?

- \_\_\_\_\_

- What adjective is used for the gravestones? \_\_\_\_\_

- What does this suggest about them? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- What verbs are used to show his actions? \_\_\_\_\_

- What do these show? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Structure

	What happens / feature	Why? The effect
Beginning	Complex sentence	Why this sentence?  Do we know why acting like this?
Pivotal moment / shift	Impact of fire	
End	What is the contrast here?  What do we learn about boy?	How is there a contrast from beginning?  Why end with this?

Look at how starts + ends with complex sentences – why? How different though?



## Q4 - 20 marks – AT LEAST 20 mins

- A student commented after reading this piece
- ‘The writer has really brought this scene to life. We can really feel his emotions’.
- To what extent do you agree with this statement?

• You must look at what methods you can discuss to show this. Fill in the next table and use it to help you write up your answer.

# Planning table

## Come to life

### Feel his emotions

I agree the scene comes to life at the beginning because .....

Another reason we do see the scene come to life is through .....

The consequences of the fire also show the scene come to life.....

Paragraph focus	Quote	Device	What it shows
Action at beginning		Complex sentence	
Description of fire			
Consequence of fire			
His reactions		Short sentence / repetition	
Contrast to night	Calm Unmoving graves		
Final actions			

What is the contrast from beginning to end?

# Over to you – 20 mins

- Para structure
- State you agree – keep using this
- Quote + device
- What it shows
- Link back to statement

Use the sentence starters on the last slide and the table to help you write up your answer.

Key aspects

Agree

Method

What it shows!

# Example paragraph

- **The first reason I agree the scene comes to life is through the effective opening to this extract.** The writer uses a complex sentence to convey the actions of the boy. He uses several connectives such as 'but' and 'so'. This creates a **strong feeling of urgency and reflects the boy running around to be able to set the place on fire. This makes us question why he is doing this and feel his desperation to do so from this. We can tell that he is feeling extremely anxious and keen to act quickly – there is also a feeling of impulsiveness through this sentence as he doesn't seem to be thinking, just acting rapidly.**