

Student 1

[4] Focus this part of your answer on the second part of the source, from line 19 to the end.

A student, having read this section of the text said:

“The writer brings the very different characters to life for the reader. It is as if you are inside the coach with them.”

To what extent do you agree?

In your response, you could:

- write about your own impressions of the characters
- evaluate how the writer has created these impressions
- support your opinions with references to the text.

[20 marks]

For the most part, I agree with what the student is saying as the source emphasises the different characters personalities and actions which makes it feel like you're with them in the coach.

Firstly, with the old man, I can understand that he's possibly a frustrated person effected by the weather, reflecting in his behaviour of the miserable weather with his introduction of , “constant complaint”

The quote, “rose from his seat in fury” shows that the old man is very impatient and can't control his actions and emotions. This shows that he doesn't really have any self-awareness and shows he only cares for himself. Also, the aggressive phrase “he thrust his head out and shouted up to the driver” hyperbolises that the old man is very and he can't control his patience. Therefore, the old man is very self-absorbed with himself and isn't making the situation better for anyone else.

Secondly, with the jovial, red-faced woman, I can infer that she completely opposite to the old man, as she is a lot more sympathetic and patient. The quote, “sighed heavily in sympathy”, shows that the woman is empathetic towards other people as she feels sorry for the people on the coach with him.

Thirdly, with Mary Yellan, the writer creates this character who seems quite introverted and sulky as she's, “hoping with some sort of desperate interest that some ray of light will break the heavy blanket of sky.” The metaphor used here hyperbolises that Mary Yellan is trying to be optimistic as she's desperate for something good to happen, so it breaks the gloomy sky.

However, there is a part to the statement where I disagree with it. In where the old man is being described, he is being a lot more hyperbolised than the other 2 characters. The quote, “rose from his seat in fury” can be described like a characture, where you're exaggerating your actions and emotions, compared to the other two where they are more normal.

Assessed responses based on the provided criteria:

The student's response shows some understanding of the characters and their personalities. They provide textual evidence to support his points, referencing specific quotes from the text. However, the evaluation lacks depth and critical analysis.

The student acknowledges the contrasting personalities of the characters but does not delve deeply into how the writer has created these impressions or how they affect the reader.

The student also identifies a hyperbolic element in the description of the old man but does not fully explore its significance.

Overall, the student's response falls into **Level 2**.

Mark: **8/20 marks**

Level 2

Some evaluation **6-10 marks**

Shows some attempts at evaluation:

- Makes some evaluative comment(s) on effect(s) on the reader
- Shows some understanding of writer's methods
- Selects some appropriate textual reference(s)
- Makes some response to the focus of the statement

Sample Answer

In the second part of the source, from line 19 to the end, the writer indeed brings the characters to life vividly. This is achieved through the detailed descriptions and interactions among the passengers. However, it is questionable whether the writer has presented a detailed description as if we were inside the coach with the passengers.

One character that stands out is the old man who complains incessantly. His constant grumbling and outburst against the driver, accusing him of reckless driving, paint a picture of a cantankerous and fearful individual. The text describes him as rising from his seat in a fury, demonstrating his agitation and frustration. This portrayal makes the reader empathise with the discomfort and annoyance felt by the other passengers, enhancing the sense of realism within the coach.

Contrasting with the old man is the jovial, red-faced woman in the blue cloak. Her joviality and resilience in the face of adversity are evident through her sighs of sympathy, winks, and casual remarks about the weather. She is depicted as someone who adapts to challenging situations with humour and practicality, as seen when she retrieves a chunk of cake from her basket and indulges in it despite the unpleasant conditions.

Mary Yellan, possibly, the protagonist, is also introduced in this section. Her demeanour reflects a mix of impatience, desperation, and hope. Despite the discomfort caused by the leaking roof and the grim weather, Mary remains fixated on the window, yearning for a glimpse of the blue sky. This longing for a momentary escape from the dreariness suggests her resilience and determination to find brightness amid darkness. The reader can empathise with Mary's inner turmoil and share her desire for a glimmer of hope, underscoring the emotional depth conveyed by the writer.

Overall, the writer effectively brings the characters to life through their distinct personalities, actions, and interactions within the coach. By providing detailed descriptions and realistic dialogue, the writer tries to immerse us, as the readers with an insight into the cramped confines of the coach, but not to a great extent.