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Level 2 English 2020

91098 Analyse specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), supported by evidence

9.30 a.m. Tuesday 24 November 2020
Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Analyse specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), supported by evidence.	Analyse specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s) convincingly, supported by evidence.	Analyse specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s) perceptively, supported by evidence.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

You should answer ONE of the essay questions in this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–12 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

Excellence

TOTAL

08

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You should aim to write a concise essay of no more than 1000 words. Your analysis is more important than the length of your answer.

Support the points you make with specific details from the text.

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Begin your written text(s) essay here:

Question number: 3

Through the incorporation of language features, *Regeneration* written by Pat Barker presented numerous thought provoking ideas which are relevant to today's society. Language features such as third person narrative, vernacular language, allusion and direct speech were integrated into the text to highlight the evolving attitudes of physicians during World War One, the impact of masculine ideals on soldiers and that war impacted all those involved, not only those in physical danger.

Barker cleverly used third person narrative to display the evolving attitudes of psychiatrists during World War One. Through the character of Dr. Rivers, a psychiatrist best known for his work with shell-shocked patients at Craiglockhart, third person narrative allows us to fully connect with his thoughts, emotions and dreams. This is shown in the text when Rivers reveals his compassion for his patients, as well as realising that his duty is to "cure" the soldiers to deem them "fit" in order to send them back to war. Through this, the reader recognises that Rivers is experiencing a moral conflict, as his duty to society is contradicting his personal opinions and emotions towards his patients. By Barker describing that "he was more inclined to seek the meaning of the conflict his dream self experienced between his duty and his reluctance to inflict further pain", the reader is forced to consider how Rivers represents the new theory of being open minded and clinical. By psychiatrists during this time period tended to have the fixed mindset that soldiers "only invented their war neurosis", as a

play to avoid returning to battle. This shows us that the other psychiatrists' preconceived ideas meant they were unable to adapt to Rivers' 'ahead of the time' ways of practicing. Rivers was able to have an open mindset as his genuine interactions with his patients allowed him to gain second hand experience into their battle encounters through sessions, stories and poems. Vernacular language is also used to display how Dr Rivers represents the evolving attitudes of psychiatrists, as Barker's choice of language indicates to the reader that other psychiatrists saw the soldiers as something to 'mock', rather than help. Examples of the harsh language used includes "conches", "shirkers" and "degenerates". This indicates that the other psychiatrists belittled the soldiers, as these words hold strong negative connotations towards a person. On the other hand, the character of Rivers introduces the thought provoking idea that his compassion is what allowed the soldiers to trust and open up to him, as it allowed him to establish a unique relationship with each of his patients. This idea was a turning point for Rivers in the text, as it resulted in him remembering his new-found morals while also concluding that it was truly up to the individual to decide how they wished to recover from the repercussions of war, and that he was only there to guide them. The character of Rivers causes us to consider how taking the time to show compassion is highly beneficial, as it allows us to form stronger relationships built on trust.

Barker's integration of allusion in the text is used to present the thought provoking idea that masculine ideals negatively impacted soldiers. This is shown through Rivers' deepened understanding of his patients, specifically Sassoon, as Rivers' compassion reveals the key ideas of masculinity and society's views on homosexuality. In the text, Sassoon alludes to "The Intermediate Sex", a book written in 1908 discussing the new idea of homosexuality. In a session with Rivers, Sassoon admits that the book did not "change" him.

but that it "saved" him from feeling outcast by society. Rivers then admits that he too had read the book "a long time ago". Because Sassoon feels comfortable in discussing such a delicate topic with Rivers, we realise that Rivers is seen as a 'father-like' figure. This is significant as homosexuality at the time was highly illegal and had severe consequences. However, due to Rivers establishing a solid relationship with Sassoon, the illegality of the topic ^{was} able to be put aside, resulting in Sassoon knowing that he can confide in Rivers without receiving judgement and backlash. Ellipsis is also used consistently throughout their conversation to represent the lingering awkwardness. Its use displays how the two characters are constantly having to stop their discussion with incomplete thoughts, as the risk of being overheard at the overcrowded Craiglockhart was too high. A common theme in the text is that society often dictated the ideal characteristics a male should display in order to be deemed "masculine". One of the main 'rules' stated was that men were to maintain the 'strong persona' through ~~at~~ suppressing all emotions associated with weakness. Barker's use of verbs such as "twitches", "jerks" and "blinks" were used to show how the horrific nature of war forced soldiers to break their strong persona, in order to deal with their ^{feelings} fears of fear, loss and solitude. Psychiatrists other than Rivers held the opinion of society, and because of this, they believed that "breaking down revealed the individual's weakness." The verbs display how the soldiers attempted to prevent themselves from opening up, as by doing so they knew they would be disobeying the preferences of society. ^{As a result} Rivers is caused to consider how masculine ideals hindered the soldiers' treatment. His evolving attitude made him unique, as he was led to believe that "breaking down was a natural reaction to the tragedies of war." This causes the reader to consider that vulnerability is a natural human reaction, and that gender should not dictate how a person copes with their emotions or expresses themselves. The overall

idea that masculine ideals dictated by society negatively impacted soldiers is thought provoking and relevant to today's society because we realise that humans are constantly seeking to impress others, even if it means avoiding natural human responses. The prevailing opinions of those in history, such as the other psychiatrists, still impact males today, as advertisements conveyed by society still believe that masculinity means suppressing emotion.

Direct speech is also used to highlight that war impacted all involved, not only those in physical danger. This is shown when Rivers experiences a sleepless night after breathlessness and chest pain. Bryce, a fellow employee asks "What do you think is wrong?" Rivers is quick to respond with "war neurosis." Through reading the text, readers are able to recognise the breathlessness and chest pain are symptoms soldiers experience when diagnosed with shell-shock. By Rivers stating that he too is experiencing symptoms, the reader is caused to question how this is possible, as Rivers has never been placed in a situation where he has been in physical danger. However, because Rivers spends all of his time in the confronting environment of Craiglockhart, living the soldiers' traumatising experiences alongside them, he too has been impacted by the harsh nature of war. This suggests that the mental state of one person can easily impact the mental and physical state of another. This idea is thought provoking as we are caused to consider the ways in which society and the people we relate ^{to} impact our mental and physical wellbeing. T.F. Hodge once said "What surrounds us is within us." This relates to the scenario in the text as it explains how the actions of others impact us. This is known as being 'products of our environment', and this directly relates to Rivers' situation as his confronting interactions with shell-shocked soldiers has impacted his mental and physical health. This situation displays how the importance

of surrounding ourselves with people who inspire us really is, as without knowing it, ~~their~~^{others} actions, thoughts and emotions will mostly likely influence our personality.

In conclusion, Regeneration written by Pat Barker incorporates language features to reveal the ideas that ~~psy~~^{the} psychiatrists experienced an evolution in attitudes during World War One, that masculine ideals negatively impacted soldiers and that war impacted all involved, not only those in immediate danger. These ideas were clearly presented through the character of Dr. Rivers, who caused us to consider how we can learn from the misconceptions held by those in history.

Excellence Exemplar 2020

Subject	English		Standard	91098	Total score	08
Q	Grade score	Annotation				
3	E8	<p>The response demonstrates perceptive understanding and an analysis of the related terminology that is fluent and woven throughout.</p> <p>Although the response is slightly unfocused at the start, thought and evaluations are sustained throughout.</p> <p>The candidate takes an original approach in addressing the question, and their judgements and conclusions are insightful.</p>				