**Rebecca: Daphne du Maurier**

**Chapter 1**

Last night I dreamed I went to Manderley\* again. It seemed to me

that I was passing through the iron gates that led to the driveway.

The drive was just a narrow track now, its stony surface covered

with grass and weeds. Sometimes, when I thought I had lost it, it

would appear again, beneath a fallen tree or beyond a muddy 5

pool formed by the winter rains. The trees had thrown out new

low branches which stretched across my way. I came to the house

suddenly, and stood there with my heart beating fast and tears

filling my eyes.

There was Manderley, our Manderley, secret and silent as it had 10

always been, the grey stone shining in the moonlight of my

dream. Time could not spoil the beauty of those walls, nor of the

place itself, as it lay like a jewel in the hollow of a hand. The grass

sloped down towards the sea, which was a sheet of silver lying

calm under the moon, like a lake undisturbed by wind or storm. 15

I turned again to the house, and I saw that the garden had run

wild, just as the woods had done. Weeds were everywhere. But

moonlight can play strange tricks with the imagination, even

with a dreamer’s imagination. As I stood there, I could swear that

the house was not an empty shell, but lived and breathed as it had 20

lived before. Light came from the windows, the curtains blew

softly in the night air, and there, in the library, the door stood half

open as we had left it, with my handkerchief on the table beside

the bowl of autumn flowers.

Then a cloud came over the moon, like a dark hand across a 25

face. The memories left me. I looked again at an empty shell, with

no whisper of the past about its staring walls. Our fear and

suffering were gone now. When I thought about Manderley in

my waking hours I would not be bitter; I would think of it as it

might have been, if I could have lived there without fear. I would 30

remember the rose garden in summer, and the birds that sang

there; tea under the trees, and the sound of the sea coming up to

us from the shore below. I would think of the flowers blown from

the bushes, and the Happy Valley. These things could never lose

their freshness.

\*The name of a large estate house in its own grounds

Read again the first part of the source, lines 1 to 9.

List **four** things from this part of the text about the grounds of Manderley.

A

B

C

D

**[4 marks]**

**Q2 [AO2 - language]**

Look in detail at this extract from lines 10 to 24 of the source:

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softly in the night air, and there, in the library, the door stood half

open as we had left it, with my handkerchief on the table beside

the bowl of autumn flowers.

How does the writer use language here to describe the house?

You could include the writer’s choice of:

• words and phrases

• language features and techniques

• sentence forms. **[8 marks]**

**Q3**

You now need to think about the **whole** of the **source.**

This text is from the opening of a novel.

How has the writer structured the text to interest you as a reader?

You could write about:

• what the writer focuses your attention on at the beginning

• how and why the writer changes this focus as the extract develops

• any other structural features that interest you. **[8 marks]**

**Q4 [AO4 - evaluate with reference]**

Focus this part of your answer on the second half of the source, **from line 25 to the end.**

A student, having read this section of the text said: “The writer skilfully conveys the

beauty of the place. It is as if you are actually there.”

To what extent do you agree?

In your response, you should:

• write about your own impressions of the place

• evaluate how the writer has created these impressions

• support your opinions with quotations from the text. **[20 marks]**