1. Read again the first part of the source, lines 1 – 8.

List four details from this part of the text about what the man is doing. (4 marks)

2. Look in detail at this extract from lines 10 - 21 of the source:

He'd gone, perhaps, three fire bays along when he heard the whoop of a shell, and, spinning round, saw the scrawl of dusty brown smoke already drifting away. He thought it'd gone clear over, but then he heard a cry and, feeling sick in his stomach, he ran back. Logan was there already. It must have been Logan's cry he heard, for nothing in that devastation could have had a voice. A conical black hole, still smoking, had been driven into the side of the trench. Of the kettle, the frying-pan, the carefully tended fire, there was no sign, and not much of Sawdon and Towers either, or not much that was recognizable.

There was a pile of sandbags and shovels close by, stacked against the parapet by a returning work party. He reached for a shovel. Logan picked up a sandbag and held it open, and he began shovelling soil, flesh and splinters of blackened bone into the bag. As he shovelled, he retched. He felt something jar against his teeth and saw that Logan was offering him a rum bottle. He forced down bile and rum together.

How does the writer use language here to describe the effects of the bomb? [8 marks]

You could include the writer's choice of:

- words and phrases
- language features and techniques
- sentence forms.
- 3. You now need to think about the whole of the source.

This text is from the middle of a novel.

How has the writer structured the text to interest you as a reader? [8 marks]

You could write about:

- what the writer does to create an atmosphere at the beginning
- how and why the writer changes the focus as the extract develops
- any other structural features that interest you.
- 4. Focus this part of your answer on the second half of the source, from line 21 to the end.

A student, having read this section of the text said: "The writer helps us to feel sympathy and understanding towards the character and his condition."

To what extent do you agree? [20 marks]

In your response, you should:

- write about your own impressions of Prior's condition
- evaluate how the writer has created these impressions
- support your opinions with quotations from the text.

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