**‘Whistle and I’ll Come to You’**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| THEME | EXAMPLE | COMMENT |
| ISOLATION | ‘…quite alone and exposed, bearing the brunt of winter after a winter of gales…’ | The house itself is isolated. The word ‘exposed’ creates a sense of vulnerability that is enhanced by the fact that the house has had to survive the harsh elements. Ironically the narrator is trying to convince himself that the house is as ‘steady as a lighthouse’. |
| THE SUPERNATURAL |  |  |
| FEAR |  |  |
| A SENSE OF THE PAST |  |  |

Copy and complete the table, finding examples from the text which relate to the extract’s themes and commenting on the way in which these example illustrate the theme.

*The Woman in Black* has many, though not all, the features of the Gothic novel. Copy and complete the following table, commenting on whether each element is present or not. If it is, find evidence to support your claim. If a feature is not present or has been changed, explain why.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| FEATURE | PRESENT OR ABSENT | EVIDENCE OR EXPLANATION |
| Set in a castle |  |  |
| An atmosphere of mystery and suspense |  |  |
| An ancient prophecy |  |  |
| Supernatural or mysterious events |  |  |
| High emotion |  |  |
| Women in distress |  |  |
| A woman threatened by a tyrannical male |  |  |
| Vocabulary associated with the Gothic and relating to mystery, fear, terror and darkness |  |  |

Hill uses a variety of techniques to build atmosphere and convey the text’s themes. Copy and complete the following table with egs. of each technique, providing an explanation of its use. See if you can spot more techniques than the ones which are mentioned.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| TECHNIQUE | EXAMPLES | COMMENT |
| Similes |  |  |
| Pairs of words |  |  |
| Questions |  |  |
| Powerful adjectives |  |  |
| Short/incomplete sentences |  |  |
| Images |  |  |
| Powerful verbs – present or past (-ing –ed) |  |  |

STRUCTURE

How does Hill use structure to create tension and suspense? In the extract, it is built to create a climax, where the narrator drums his fists on the floor, and to a sense of resolution when he calms down. Copy and complete the table, listing the events and commenting on how each adds to the build up of tension.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| EVENTS | COMMENT |
| Reads a book and then goes to sleep | Creates a sense of the ordinary, even though the weather is harsh. The sense of inner calm suggested here makes the change that occurs later more effective by contrast. |
| Wakes suddenly | Brings a change. The fact that he woke suddenly hints at something might be wrong. |
| The force of the wind has increased |  |
| Hears a cry |  |