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| **Text 2: Great Expectations, Charles Dickens** |
| I saw that everything within my view which ought to be white, had been white long ago, and had lost its brightness, and was faded and yellow. I saw that the bride within the bridal dress had withered like the dress she wore, and like the flowers, and had no brightness left but the brightness of her sunken eyes. I saw that the dress had been put upon the rounded figure of a young woman, and that the figure upon which it now hung loose, had shrunk to skin and bone. Once, I had been taken to one of our old marsh churches to see a skeleton in the ashes of a rich dress, that had been dug out of a vault under the church pavement. Now, that skeleton seemed to have dark eyes that moved and looked at me. I should have cried out, if I could. |

**[Paper 1 Question 1] List four things from this part of the text about the woman being described:**

1. The woman
2. The woman
3. The woman
4. The woman

**[Vocabulary and comprehension] Look in detail at the underlined sections.**

1. “Everything… which ought to be white” “was faded”. In other words
2. The colour “white” usually symbolises
3. “Brightness” might represent feelings of
4. The **paucity** of “brightness” may suggest
5. Dickens creates a feeling of **abnormality.** For example
6. The woman is “shrunk” and “sunken”. In other words
7. A **supernatural** feeling is created. For example
8. It is **unsettling** for the reader when
9. It is as if the woman’s purity has been **corrupted** by time. In other words
10. Usually, a skeleton is **static.** However,

**[Paper 1 Question 2] How does the writer use language to describe the woman (Miss Havisham)?**

*Read this example and then use your notes and annotations to write your own answer*

Dickens chooses to depict Miss Havisham as an almost **supernatural** being. For example, she is described as a “skeleton” with “dark eyes that moved and looked at me”. In other words, whilst she looked dead and thus should have been **static** and unmoving, her eyes “moved”. In particular, Dickens **juxtaposes** the ideas of life and death; action and stasis; natural and supernatural by setting up an expectation of stillness that is **transgressed** by the action of eye “move[ment]”. It is almost as if Dickens aims to create fear by giving the reader this unpredictable character who seems both dead and alive at the same time and is therefore **volatile** and perhaps **predatory.** Therefore the reader is **unsettled** by the **perpetual** uncertainty that is created; we wonder which world she belongs to.

Dickens

For example

In other words

In particular,

It is almost as if \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_