Revision Tasks



Subject: English Language

Task 3: Q3 Language Analysis

Task:

1. Read this passage about Jack the Ripper from a newspaper article in 1888.

2. Choose 3 quotations that show the writer's opinions about Jack the Ripper and highlight them.

3. What language techniques or word classes are significant in those quotations? Annotate using subject terminology.

4. What are the effect of those quotations? What do they tell us about Jack the Ripper? Consider the effect on the reader.

5. If time allows in your 20 minutes, you could start writing up your analysis into paragraphs.

How does the author use language here to convey his opinions about Jack the Ripper?

London lies to-day under the spell of a great terror. A nameless reprobate - half beast, half man - is at large, who is daily gratifying his murderous instincts on the most miserable and defenceless classes of the community. There can be no shadow of a doubt now that our original theory was correct, and that the Whitechapel murderer, who has now four, if not five, victims to his knife, is one man, and that man a murderous maniac. There is a murderer in our midst. Hideous malice, deadly cunning, insatiable thirst for blood - all these are the marks of the mad homicide. The ghoul-like creature who stalks through the streets of London, stalking down his victim like a Pawnee Indian, is simply drunk with blood, and he will have more. The question is, what are the people of London to do? Whitechapel is garrisoned with police and stocked with plainclothes men. Nothing comes of it. The police have not even a clue. They are in despair at their utter failure to get so much as a scent of the criminal.