

GCSE (9–1)
Candidate Style Answers

ENGLISH LITERATURE

J352
For first teaching in 2015

Component 1
Section B: 19th century prose
The War of the Worlds –
H G Wells

Version 2



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Script A

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(A)

Q2 Explore how Wells presents ideas about what makes an enemy dangerous and terrifying

Wells presents ideas about what makes an enemy dangerous and terrifying by the use of the Martians' speed. He says, 'as fast as flying birds'. This suggests that they are as quick and nimble as something that flaps. Today, a bird does not seem very fast, but back then, when trains went at 30 miles per hour, it was incredibly fast. The word, 'birds' ~~shows~~ ~~that they were~~ almost means that they were in formation, because that is how a flock of birds fly.

Furthermore he says, 'swept swiftly forward'. The use of 'swept' upon the guns. The use of 'swept' almost ^{suddenly} refers to how a snake might leap towards its prey or in this case the Martians towards the human resistance. The word, 'upon' may seem as if they fell upon the guns, suggesting that they were moving very fast. Speed makes an enemy 'dangerous and terrifying' because ~~they can act before the enemy~~ the enemy can act before we can do anything about it, like what the Martians did.

Wells also shows what makes an enemy dangerous and terrifying by making the Martians seem merciless and cruel.

Near the beginning of the book ^{after} when the Martians ~~have~~ landed in the sand pit, the humans, led by ~~General~~ Ogilvy sent a ~~party~~ ~~and~~

...continued

Script A

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peace party to try and make contact with the Martians. ~~However~~ they he used a white flag to try and show the Martians that he was not a threat. However, the Martians either did not understand (which demonstrates that they had not been observing us properly) what the white flag was or did not care and just 'heat-fused' them anyway. This shows they are merciless because they do not want peace only total destruction of the ~~human~~ human control on Earth. In fact they want to not to kill us all, but feed off us. Near the middle of book 2, when the Narrator and the Curate were trapped together underneath the collapsed ~~house~~ house, they witnessed a Martian sucking the blood of a captured man. This is cruel because not only do they want to take control of our home, but they also want to eat us. Cruelty makes an enemy terrifying.

Probably what makes an enemy the most dangerous and terrifying are their weapons and technology. ~~They~~ The Martians have 2 main ones, - the heat ray and the black smoke. In the extract well says, 'and the ghastly heat-ray ~~was~~ ^{was} smoke towards ~~the~~ ^{the} Chertsey and struck the town. This implies that the heat-ray ^{seems} so powerful that it can strike a whole ^{town} ~~town~~ at once. The word ghastly means that it is mysterious, terrifying and invisible, so you cannot tell what it is about

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...continued

Script A

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to hit. ~~It~~

The black smoke is used on multiple occasions, but usually in case there ~~are~~ ^{is} any hidden artillery, to smoke out the artillerymen. This prevents ~~them~~ ^{the men} from being able to do anything about the Martians, so they are practically 'invisible'.

~~Furthermore~~ ~~So in general~~ Furthermore, he says 'the ground heaved underfoot', which suggests that they are so powerful that the Earth is in pain, through the use of personification. The word 'heaved', ~~to~~ can be used to describe when someone coughs, 'one's chest heaves' so it is almost as if the ground is ~~about~~ chobing on the black smoke.

Another reason the enemy can be dangerous is if they are intellectually ~~are~~ superior and plan well in advance. Throughout the novel Wells refers to us as being 'under the microscope', ~~as well as~~ ~~as if~~ like inferior animals (eg. frogs) and also says that we have been scrutinised since well before the invasion. They knew everything about Earth ~~as~~ ~~except~~ except possibly the bacteria).

Script A

Examiner commentary

This is a higher level response. The candidate addresses the question immediately citing 'the Martians' speed' using close textual support and quotations from the extract. References to language (AO2) are frequent and there is some good use of subject terminology to identify literary devices. The candidate sensibly uses the extract to show close analysis of language, while using references to the wider text to refer to context.

The response benefits from careful interweaving of discussion of the extract with some developed discussion of the wider text. The candidate looks at the merciless nature of the Martians in their response to the peace deputation led by Ogilvy, as well as the narrator's close observation of the Martians during his time trapped in the cellar. Some selective quotations would have strengthened this part of the response, but whole-text understanding is securely demonstrated.

Understanding of context is shown through references to transport at the time, as well as the developed technology and weaponry of the Martians. The candidate cites how they seem invincible as an enemy at this point in the novel due to their intellectual superiority.

This response could have been improved through wider use of quotation, especially from the wider text, as well as consideration of the human response to the Martians in the extract.

Level 5



Script B

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Question 1

Wells presents ideas about what makes an enemy dangerous and terrifying by mentioning how fast the Martians are approaching. He says that they are 'striding hurriedly and as fast as birds.' This certainly makes the Martians seem more dangerous as they can cover so a lot of distance very quickly. He also describes their movement as 'a rolling motion' which gives the reader an image of a fluid, making the Martians seem like a wave engulfing everything in their path and inescapable. Furthermore, their swift movement speed quickly shows us how big they are. He writes that they are 'growing so rapidly larger as they drew nearer.' This makes them sound more terrifying because a larger enemy is a lot more powerful and dangerous enemy.

Wells also presents ideas about what makes an enemy dangerous and terrifying with the knowledge of the scale of destruction they are capable of. He says that the narrator, had already seen the destruction on the heat ray at work. This just makes the Martians more destructive because this time we know that they don't come in peace and that they're capable of destroying everything in their way. He further makes the Martians more terrifying by adding that people began to hide and run away.

Wells also presents these ideas in other parts of the novel too. When the first cylinder opens, Wells makes the appearance of the Martians seem terrifying. He writes that their 'skin glistened like wet leather, and that they were the size of a bear.' This description of the Martians is very terrifying because it is very precise. At the time at which this book was written - people hadn't really seen any movies

...continued

Script B

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or pictures of aliens before so this description would seem very strange and scary. Furthermore, the language for the description is relatable because, at that time, most people would understand what wet leather looks like, making the description seem more vivid.

LNK
45 min
Another part of the book in which Wells presents ideas about what makes an enemy dangerous and terrifying is when the Martians first use the Heat Ray. Although this point conflicts somewhat with my second point, I do believe it also works. At this point in the book, the people don't yet know whether they ~~are~~ come in peace or not. The people are excited but not yet terrified but as soon as the Martians take out the Heat Ray and start to use it, everyone becomes very afraid. Talking about the narrator, Wells writes, 'I was a battleground of fear and curiosity. The technique Wells used to create this fear was suspense and not knowing whether the Martians are friendly or not. This ~~makes~~ curiosity of the Martians makes them ~~so~~ more dangerous because many people are drawn in due to their curiosity and when the Martians turn out to be evil, they the people cannot escape anymore. This arrogance of man is what killed so many people at the beginning and it is a heavily recurring theme in this book. So in summary of this point, Wells makes the enemy more dangerous and terrifying through our own arrogance - that we expected them to be friendly or inferior but they were actually superior to us and we weren't prepared.'

Script B

Examiner commentary

This is a higher level response. The candidate begins by focusing on the question through the extract, immediately commenting on the language of the extract and analysing its effects clearly. The description of the Martians' movement as 'a rolling motion' is commented on in detail: 'making the Martians seem like a wave engulfing everything in their path and inescapable'.

The response is effectively organised into paragraphs examining the different ways in which the enemy is presented as dangerous and terrifying: the speed of the approach, the scale of destruction they are capable of, their appearance, and finally their weapons form the basis of each paragraph.

The wider text is discussed through an evaluation of how the Martians' appearance is described when they first emerge from the cylinder. Some well-selected references are used to support the points made and a rather neat summative point that the precision of Wells's descriptions makes the Martians more terrifying. Further exploration of the wider text is offered through a discussion of the first use of the Heat-ray and the terror it evokes in a formerly curious and naïve public.

Understanding of context is shown through an awareness that the concept of alien life forms would have been more terrifying to a 19th century reader and that Wells's use of descriptions such as 'wet leather' would have allowed readers to easily imagine their appearance due to the fact that 'most people would understand what wet leather looks like'.

This response would have been strengthened through a more thorough discussion of the extract to develop analysis of language and structure, although some useful points about structure were made when referring to Wells's use of suspense and gradual revelations about the power of the enemy.

Level 5



Script C

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(C)

This extract is 3/4 of the way through book 1. Wells presents ideas about what makes an enemy terrifying, and dangerous by describing the Martians complete control over the setting.

Firstly, The use of the general public, in not only this extract, but also in the whole novel, helps the reader establish the danger from different points of view. Wells writes, "A woman thrust at me with her hand". The use of the woman is important as it shows how ordinary people not just Mad Scientists like the narrator, are caught up in the situation. There is a sense of the "survival of the fittest" with the words "thrust at me", a violent act against the narrator coming from a woman who, at the time, probably wouldn't dare to do in normal circumstances. Wells is making the narrator the center of the situation so that he can make anything that happens look bad. This hints at one of the supposed meanings of the book, that a world war of devastation & death is coming. The idea is repeated much throughout the book, an example being the fight to get on a train in London. The way that the Martians can turn man against man is a dangerous and terrifying weapon.

Wells uses descriptive words when talking about the setting (location), to show how dangerous the enemy is to the earth's structure. He writes "we saw a puff of smoke... the ground heaved underneath". The word "heaved" shows a sign of weakness in the earth, almost as if it can't cope with the destruction that these enemies are causing, which and if the Martians or any enemy have the power to take the world apart, they have got to be terrifying or even dangerous. The idea of inner world destruction is also

...continued

Script C

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used at the beginning of the ~~the~~ book, when the Martians Cylinder made such a massive hole in the ground.

The prominent use of deadly language when describing the enemy helps ~~show~~^{depict} how dangerous and terrifying the Heat-Ray is. Wells writes "ghostly Heat-Ray". The word "ghostly" here can have a huge effect if interpreted correctly. This means that the Martians have used their heat ray everywhere and its remote ~~is~~^{is} shown in its destructing, pointing at it as if though the heat ray is haunting the place. Either this, or that the heat ray turns anything it touches into ghosts. Both of these thoughts are as terrifying as ~~that~~ the other and just show how dangerous some weapons can be. The black smoke used throughout the whole book is also described in this way ~~it~~, to make it seem as dangerous as possible.

The use of strong adverbs when describing the Martians in the extract emphasises ~~the idea that~~ that these Martians are alive, unreal but alive. He says "advancing obliquely... swept swiftly rapidly lower". Wells writes "swiftly" to show that the Martians are confident and have no troubles moving forward to conquer us humans. This is especially important because at the beginning of the novel the arrogant humans were dismissing the men from Mars because they were overwhelmed with our gravity, and could ~~not~~^{not} "Crawl more quickly". The idea that the Martians have ~~over~~ overcome their issues, and adapted for the earth just shows how dangerous and terrifying intelligent lifeforms can be.

~~At the~~ At the beginning of the second book, the narrator is trapped in a house with the crew because a cylinder landed right beside the building they were in ~~both~~. This creates a sense of helplessness for the humans. He writes that



Script C

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They were trapped and extremely terrified that the cylinder was there. They tried to be quiet because they knew the Martians were more powerful and more dangerous than they were, further enforcing the danger and fear given out from the Martians, to anyone "which comes in its way" (quote Pymond or).

Therefore we can safely say that the Martians / enemies become more and more dangerous ~~and~~ terrifying as the book goes on, that is, of course, until the Martians die off bacteria and disease - something we are immune to.



Script C

Examiner commentary

This is a middle level response. The candidate begins by focusing on the question and suggesting the different methods used by Wells to depict the enemy as dangerous: 'he uses description...the build up of tension...and also the public's reaction to the enemy...'. The candidate then uses this as a structure for the response.

There is some good analysis of the language used in the extract to describe the enemy: " 'strange, swift, terrible creatures.' Here Wells describes the attributes of the Martians but not what they look like. He purposely avoids it so that he accentuates the terror of the enemy as mysterious and cold-blooded." There is also some useful discussion of structure citing how Wells builds up suspense and tension through the extract.

Some understanding of context (AO3) is shown through comments on the reaction of the crowds in the extract: the chaos and determination to survive, but this assessment objective needed more focus and attention in the response.

Unfortunately discussion of the wider text is limited to the final paragraph where the candidate refers to the chaos around the pit resulting in somebody being pushed in and the first appearance of the Martians. These comments are brief and undeveloped, making whole-text understanding rather limited.

Therefore this response is stronger on AO1 and AO2 (the dominant assessment objectives) than AO3, and mostly focused on the extract. It would have been strengthened by slightly more focus on AO3 and more comprehensive discussion of the wider text.

Level 4



Script D

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(D)

Wells displays ~~the~~ how dangerous and terrifying the enemy is by his use of language. He uses the words 'rush', 'jerked' and 'heaved'. This language shows dangerous the Martians actually are. ~~He~~ He uses these words to show that even the ground or the air and smoke is scared and almost running away with 'a rush of smoke' and 'smoke that jerked up into the air'. This ~~the~~ language ^{is very rushed and} creates an overload of information on the reader which may cause the reader themselves to feel scared.

Wells describes how dangerous the Martians are when the Martian falls into the lake. This is ~~right after~~ ~~the~~ ~~extract~~ found in the middle of book 1. The Martian is taken down and falls into the lake and boils the water without meaning to. This shows just how dangerous the Martians are as they had killed many people in a lake even while dead.

The Martians are shown as terrifying when Wells describes the destruction the Martians had caused. In ~~the~~ the middle of book 1, an entire village is destroyed. The village is completely blackened and no ~~people were~~ living people are seen anywhere in the village. The annihilation of the village and death of the people show the Martians's terrifying destruction and how dangerous their weapons are.

Wells make the Martians have a terrifying effect on the crowd watching the Martians walking ~~to~~ towards them. Wells uses the words frightened and terrified to show ~~how~~ how the crowd feels and the Martians seem to trigger a 'every man for himself' feeling with in the crowd. The narrator is pushed and

...continued

Script D

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pulled around by the crowd. This is shown by Wells writing, 'staggering with a blow' and 'A woman thrust at me'. The crowd are so frightened and terrified that they do not care about another human being.

after.
45 mins.

Wells creates a sense that the Martians are terrifying and completely different to us. He shows this with the words 'rolling motion' and 'fast as flying birds'. This shows how unusual the Martians are. We ~~do~~ cannot think about ~~the~~ anything walking or moving with a rolling motion. This lets us imagine how the Martians move letting us imagine something extremely different to anything we know. Even though 'fast as flying birds' compares to something we know, it is unusual to see something move as ~~as~~ ~~fast~~ swiftly as a bird on land. Wells also uses the word 'smoke'. This suggests that the Martians are completely different and almost godly. Although this may show how much dominance the Martians have over Man, it also shows how dangerous ~~they~~ ~~are~~ the Martians are and how they can immediately destroy something at their will. Wells also uses the words 'strange, swift and terrible creatures'. It shows how weird and unusual they are and also how they are terrible by causing a lot of pain and destruction.



Script D

Examiner commentary

This is a middle level response. The candidate focuses on the question, but the response is rather general and mostly on the extract. The references to the wider text are rather descriptive and at times a little vague.

There is some discussion of the language used in the extract so AO2 is addressed adequately. Words such as 'rush', 'jerked' and 'heaved' are picked out as indicating the danger of the Martians as an enemy and their effect on the reader is considered. There is also some comment on the reactions of the crowd in the extract and this is linked to context (AO3) where the candidate shows understanding of how the notion of 'survival of the fittest' is explored: "the Martians seem to trigger a 'every man for himself' feeling with in the crowd." There is some neat use of quotation in this section of the response.

The discussion of the Martians' speed is less successful although there is some evidence of a personal response to the text here: 'This lets us imagine how the Martians move letting us imagine something extremely different to anything we know.'

The weakness of this response is in the references to the wider text. They are mostly general and descriptive, rather than showing clear understanding. 'In the middle of book 1, an entire village is destroyed. The village is completely blackened and no living people are seen anywhere in the village.' is cited as an example of the Martians' destructive powers, but there is no real analysis of how this is presented or explored in the text.

Therefore this response is rather uneven: much stronger on the extract than on the whole text.

Level 3



Script E

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E

Explore how Wells presents his idea about what makes an enemy dangerous and terrifying in this extract and elsewhere in the novel.

This extract falls in the middle of the book. Here the martians have returned and are about to ransack the town. Wells uses ^{# powerful} emotive language to show the enemies as dangerous. He writes "The ground heaved ... heavy explosions shook the air". This shows that the martians ~~where~~ ^{were} so powerful that even the ground could not withstand their sheer size.

Wells ~~describes~~ ^{compares} the martian tripods as being to animals to show ~~their~~ how dangerous they are. He says "Little cowed figures they ~~appear~~ ^{seemed} at first, going with a rolling motion and flying as fast as birds". This shows us that they have adopted some of the qualities that would make us powerful. This makes them seem terrifying.

However Wells uses this technique elsewhere in the novel to describe how we ^{are} weak compared to them. When at the start of the the narrator is trying to get out of the river he says "like frogs running from man". This shows that we are far more insignificant to them ~~making~~ but a larger threat to us, **Making** ^{them} ~~#~~ seem terrifying.

~~He uses~~ In the third paragraph, he uses eerie language to describe the weapons the martians use. He writes "and the ghostly Heat-Ray". This shows that this thing is so fascinating its unreal. Also a ghost is indestructible making it seem like the ultimate tool for anybody, ~~not~~ showing ~~it is~~ ~~a~~ dangerous they are



Script E

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He uses this elsewhere ~~X~~ in the novel as well.

Here it is used to describe what the narrator sees for the first time. "He uses "and a flash of light" and "death leaping from one to another". This shows that it's almost godly in the way that it has the power to summon "death" and just eliminate them in a blink of an eye.

Near the end of the extract ~~X~~ Wells uses short clauses to show this rush and panic. He says "The terrible heat rays was on my mind. To get underwater! That was it!" This shows how much chaos the mortians inflict upon them on arrival, showing they must be dangerous.

↳ Up to 45 mins

He also ~~describes~~ counts the amount of tripods there are to show their power. He writes "Quickly, one after the other, one, two, three, four..." This shows fast paced this is going and that the people here are scared of one, let alone four.

When the narrator is in the river he uses a long sentence to describe ~~event~~ the ^{rush} ~~moment~~ of the event. He says "The mortians came forth... people ran... The water boiled." This makes it seem firing and we cannot outrun the mortians forever, making them superior to us.

In conclusion, I think that Wells presents the ~~en~~ enemies as being powerful very well through the use of emotive language and ~~varies~~ various sentence techniques.



Script E

Examiner commentary

This is a lower level response. It is a reasonably developed personal response to the extract which shows some understanding, but there is very little on the wider text. The points made are fairly straightforward.

AO2 is addressed quite well. There are references to Wells's use of powerful language in the extract, with examples offered such as 'the ground heaved. ... heavy explosions shook the air' and the candidate goes some way to explaining the quotes used. At times the explanations are not fully convincing: "... 'and the ghostly Heat-ray'. This shows that this thing is so fascinating its unreal...".

There are some references to how sentence structures are used for effect: 'Wells uses short clauses to show this rush and panic', but again the quality of comment is uneven: 'he uses a long sentence to describe the rush of the event. ...this makes it seem tiring and we cannot outrun the martians forever...!'

The response does not address AO3 other than the implicit understanding that the Martians are more powerful than the humans.

This is an uneven response to the extract which shows understanding, but would have benefited from consideration of context and more detailed analysis of the language of the extract. A significant weakness is that there is only one brief reference to the wider text. As this assessment requires wider reference to the text this affects the level awarded.

Level 2



Script F

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F

In this book the martians actions cause humans to act in two ways, bravery and ~~cowardness~~ selfishness. Wells presents this by showing the army bands together.

At the end of Book 1 the narrator talks about his brother seeing a warship called "the Thunder Child" and it raced off right into the enemy. This shows how brave they were at that as long as the public got out they ~~were safe~~ knew their sacrifice was worth it.

Elsewhere in the book, Wells shows it brings the good out in the people of Britain ~~then~~ by opening the rails. Even when the rail was being blocked the trains carried on. This shows that unlike the policemen they ~~to~~ tried to maintain as much law and order as they could.

On the otherhand it also brings out the worst in people. Wells uses powerful language to do this.

He talks about "the wheels being stained with blood". ~~It~~ This shows that the chaos was horrific and that people didn't care for each~~the~~ others lives.

I think that they ~~do~~ ^{did} bring out the good and bad in people and I think it was done well.



Script F

Examiner commentary

This is a lower level response to the discursive essay title. It focuses on humans displaying bravery and selfishness in the novel, making some straightforward points.

Reference is made to The Thunder Child bravely facing the enemy and recognising that sacrifices were made to save others. The trains carrying on during the invasion is also acknowledged and the police trying to maintain law and order. These are all very general points and no specific references to the text are offered to support or develop them.

There is one textual reference, 'the wheels being stained with blood', which is used to support a comment about the chaos and that people 'didn't care for each others lives'. The point is not entirely supported, but there is a little understanding shown.

The response is rather brief and ideas are not developed. This is a basic response to the task with a little awareness of language. AO3 is not really addressed although there is some implicit understanding of human strength and frailty.

Level 1





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