*The extract is taken from Bram Stoker’s novel, Dracula, written in 1897.*

*In this extract, Johnathan Harker records in his journal*

*his private thoughts and feelings about Count Dracula and his castle.*

8 May.--I began to fear as I wrote in this book that I was writing in too much detail.

But now I am glad that I went into detail from the first, for there is something so

strange about this place and all in it that I cannot but feel uneasy. I wish I were

safely out of it, or that I had never come. It may be that this strange night existence

is taking its toll on me – if only that were all! If there were any one to talk to I could 5

bear it, but there is no-one. I have only Count Dracula to speak with, and he – I

fear I am myself the only living soul within the place. Let me be plain so far as facts

can be. It will help me to cope, and imagination must not run riot with me. If it does,

I am lost.

I only slept a few hours when I went to bed, and feeling that I could not sleep any 10

more, got up. I had hung my shaving mirror by the window, and was just beginning

to shave. Suddenly I felt a hand on my shoulder, and heard the Count's voice

saying to me, "Good morning." I started, for it amazed me that I had not seen him,

since the reflection of the mirror covered the whole room behind me. Having been

startled I had cut myself slightly, but did not notice it at that moment. Having 15

answered the Count's greeting, I turned to the mirror again to see how I had been

mistaken. This time there could be no mistake, for the man was close to me, and I

could see him over my shoulder. But there was no reflection of him in the mirror!

The whole room behind me was displayed, but there was no sign of a man in it,

except myself! 20

This was startling, and coming on the top of so many strange things, was beginning

to increase that vague feeling of uneasiness which I always feel when the Count

is near. But at that instant I saw the cut had bled a little, and the blood was trickling

over my chin. I laid down the razor, turning as I did so half round to look for some

sticking plaster. When the Count saw my face, his eyes blazed with a sort of 25

demoniac fury, and he suddenly made a grab at my throat. I pulled away and his

hand touched the rosary beads which held the crucifix. It made an instant change

in him, for his anger passed so quickly that I could hardly believe that it was ever

there.

"Take care," he said, "take care how you cut yourself. It is more dangerous that 30

you think in this country." Then seizing the shaving mirror, he continued, "And this

is the wretched thing that has done the mischief. Away with it!" And, opening the

window with one wrench of his terrible hand, he flung out the mirror, which was

shattered into a thousand pieces on the stones of the courtyard far below. Then

he left the room without a word. It is very annoying, for I do not see how I am to 35

shave, unless in my watch-case or the bottom of the shaving pot, which is

fortunately made out of metal.

When I went into the dining room, breakfast was prepared, but I could not find the

Count anywhere. So I ate breakfast alone. It is strange that as yet I have not seen

the Count eat or drink. He must be a very peculiar man! After breakfast I did a little 40

exploring in the castle. I went out on the stairs, and found a room looking towards

the South.

The view was magnificent, and from where I stood there was every opportunity of

seeing it. The castle is on the very edge of a terrific cliff. A stone falling from the

window would fall a thousand feet without touching anything! As far as the eye can 45

reach is a sea of green tree tops, with occasionally a deep rift where there is a

chasm. Here and there are silver threads where the rivers wind in deep gorges

through the forests.

But I am not able to describe beauty, for when I had seen this view I explored

further. Doors, doors, doors everywhere … and all locked and bolted. In no place, 50

except via the windows in the castle walls is there an available exit. The castle is

a prison, and I am its prisoner!

Q1a: Read paragraph **one** again.

List **two** reasons why Johnathan Harker feels uneasy in Dracula’s castle

[2 marks]

1.

2.

Q1b: Now read paragraph **three** again.

List **two** ways Count Dracula reacts when he sees blood on Johnathan’s chin. [2 marks]

1.

2.

Q2: Read again paragraphs **two and three**.

I only slept a few hours when I went to bed, and feeling that I could not sleep any 10

more, got up. I had hung my shaving mirror by the window, and was just beginning

to shave. Suddenly I felt a hand on my shoulder, and heard the Count's voice

saying to me, "Good morning." I started, for it amazed me that I had not seen him,

since the reflection of the mirror covered the whole room behind me. Having been

startled I had cut myself slightly, but did not notice it at that moment. Having 15

answered the Count's greeting, I turned to the mirror again to see how I had been

mistaken. This time there could be no mistake, for the man was close to me, and I

could see him over my shoulder. But there was no reflection of him in the mirror!

The whole room behind me was displayed, but there was no sign of a man in it,

except myself! 20

This was startling, and coming on the top of so many strange things, was beginning

to increase that vague feeling of uneasiness which I always feel when the Count

is near. But at that instant I saw the cut had bled a little, and the blood was trickling

over my chin. I laid down the razor, turning as I did so half round to look for some

sticking plaster. When the Count saw my face, his eyes blazed with a sort of 25

demoniac fury, and he suddenly made a grab at my throat. I pulled away and his

hand touched the rosary beads which held the crucifix. It made an instant change

in him, for his anger passed so quickly that I could hardly believe that it was ever

there.

How does the writer use **language** to make this part of the text dramatic?

[8 marks]

You could include:

* the writer’s choice of words and phrases;
* language features and techniques;
* sentence forms.

Q3: You need to think about the **whole extract** now.

How has the writer **structured** the text to interest you as a reader?

[8 marks]

You could write about:

* What the writer focuses your attention on at the beginning
* How the writer develops this focus as the extract develops
* The way that the extract ends

Q4: Focus this part of your answer on paragraphs 2, 3 and 5. A student said,

***“I think it’s clever how the writer drops hints that Count Dracula is vampire.”***

To what extent do you agree? [20 marks]

In your response you should:

* write about your impressions of Count Dracula;
* evaluate how the writer conveys the idea that Dracula is a vampire;
* support your opinions with quotations from the text.