

C1 Mark Scheme – *Hartop*

Read lines 1 - 5.

0.1 List five things you learn about the motor-van in these lines. [5]

Award **one mark** for each point and/or inference identified by the candidate, **to a maximum of five**:

- The van is an old Ford
- The van has been repainted green
- There is a flattened-out biscuit tin nailed to the side
- The sign on the van says 'J.Hartop, greengrocer, rabbits'
- The van's lettering is streaky white
- The van is travelling slowly across a treeless stretch, in half darkness
- Rain hailed on the van's windscreen/has a windscreen
- There are roses strung on the roof

No mark should be awarded for unabridged quotation of whole sentences.

Read lines 6 - 18

0.2 What impression does the writer create of the Hartop family in these lines? [5]

Some points that candidates may explore:

- The family do not seem close
- The mother and daughter seem uncomfortable in the father's company
- 'a thin, angular man, starved-faced'/description of the father gives him a harsh appearance. His face does not seem friendly/warm
- 'occupy almost all the seat'/feeling that the father is selfish or dominant in the family
- 'wife and their daughter Alice sat squeezed up'/'the girl with her arms flat as though ironed against her side, her thin legs pressed tight together'/suggests the mother and daughter are willing to let the father take all the space/frightened to question the father's actions
- 'seemed moulded in clay and in the light'/the family's expressions as set and do not reflect any warmth/joy at being together/lifeless
- 'two women were thin, with a screwed-up thinness that made them look both hard and frightened'/family seem withdrawn/quiet/fear of the situation is evident
- 'Hartop drove with great caution, grasping the wheel tightly, braking hard at the bends, his big yellowish eyes fixed ahead with vigilance.'/menacing appearance and actions/animalistic
- 'marked on the backs with dark smears of dried rabbits' blood'/sinister observation
- 'two women sat in a state of silent apprehension, their bodies not moving except to lurch with the van'/fear reinforced/repeated here. The women are uncomfortable with the situation
- 'their clayish faces continuously intent, almost scared, in the lamp-gloom'/repetition of the clay faces to show they are expressionless/fearful or uncomfortable in the father's company

Overview

- Very uncomfortable relationships and unpleasant atmosphere, distasteful tone with the source seemingly the father.

Read lines 19-43

0.3 How does the writer show the relationship between Alice and her father in these lines? [10]

Some points that candidates may explore:

- 'Hear anything drop?'/the father shows he is alert/concerned about the noise
- 'No, something dropped.'/father insists he is right and dismisses any other thoughts/ideas
- 'But the engine still ticked, and they could hear nothing beyond it but the wind and rain in the dead grass along the roadside'/insistent on trying to establish the facts/doesn't trust the mother's account of the wind
- 'Alice, you get out.'/father send daughter out to look/not himself
- 'Alice stepped across her mother's legs, groped with blind instinct for the step, and then got out'/more convenient for mother/father to get out and look but Alice seems resigned to going/she doesn't protest at her father's order
- 'Hartop leaned across his wife and shouted: 'Go back a bit and see what it was.'/seems frustrated that Alice hasn't found anything/almost suggesting she hasn't looked properly
- 'Something dropped. We'll stop at Drake's Turn. You'll catch up. I know something dropped.'/insistent on finding the item/adamant something has fallen off the van/short-tempered/lacking patience or kindness towards daughter
- 'van began to move away.'/leaving Alice behind/ happy for Alice to continue looking on her own despite the weather/not willing to wait for Alice/putting Alice at risk
- 'it seemed to be moving very rapidly.'/how far is the van going? Lack of concern for how far Alice might have to walk/a sense that Alice feels abandoned
- 'She walked without hurrying'/shows some defiance from Alice/ in no rush to return to the family
- 'She seemed to accept the journey as she accepted the rain and her father's words, quite stoically'/doesn't fight against her father/happy to conform with his wishes
- 'looking directly ahead'/just going through the motions of looking with no real intent on doing so
- 'She could see nothing'
- Overall relationship seems to lack any usual family bonds/not a loving relationship
- Father seems to see Alice as a worker/employee and not a family member
- Alice seems resigned to her father's behaviour towards her
- Alice does not fight his authority

Read lines 44-72

0.4 How does the writer create sympathy for Alice? [10]

Some points that candidates may explore:

- 'after a time'/Alice has been out searching in the rain

- 'picked up a bunch of pink roses, and then she began to walk back'/sense of Alice knowing what her job is and resigned to her treatment
- 'recurrent rain'/the conditions in which Alice is out make her treatment seem even more harsh
- 'Only a bunch of roses.'/Alice's reply to her mother highlights how she might speak to her parents differently/guard is down with her mother
- Hartop himself appeared at the very moment she was speaking. 'Only?'/unexpected at her father's appearance when speaking to her mother.
- 'Alice stood mute'/a feeling that she is surprised and shocked by her father's sudden appearance/highlights that she wouldn't have spoken to her mother in that way if she had known her father was listening.
- 'had no quality except a complete lack of all surprise'/sympathy as Alice is familiar with the process/she avoids reacting to minimise the reaction from her father
- 'though she had expected her father to speak like that'/resigned to her treatment/used to how her father speaks to her
- 'Well, don't stand there! Do something. Go on. Go on! Go and see who wants a bunch of roses. Move yourself!'/father speaks to Alice harshly despite her being very obedient
- 'Alice obeyed at once'/Alice doesn't resist or protest at her treatment
- 'picked up the flowers, walked away and vanished, all without a word or a change of that expression of unsurprised calmness'/almost robotic and without emotion/Alice is fully compliant with her father's request and does not protest
- 'voice was flat'/lacks emotion
- 'flat faint impression of a voice'/her voice was almost not there
- 'madden her father'/understands her father's behaviour and responds in a way to avoid further angering her father
- 'All right, all right. Ok, all right. Leave it.'/short and sharp response from father after Alice has been out for some time searching for the flowers in the rain and wind
- 'He seized the roses'/actions harsh/father's grab of the roses reflects his treatment of Alice/he is annoyed with her
- 'Without a word the girl and her mother chained and hooked up the back-board
- apprehension, staring through the rain-beaded windscreen'/Alice and her mother know what they must do/their actions are robotic
- 'You must try to do what your father tells you. It's a difficult time at the minute. He's just worried.'/closer relationship with her mother/almost kept secret/mother is excusing her father's behaviour
- 'Yes,.'/Alice's short response show she does not want to protest and resigned to her treatment

Overall

- Alice seems to accept her life/she is used to it
- Her mother doesn't challenge her father as she is also used to the treatment
- Alice is treated more like an employee than a daughter
- Seems to lack the loving family environment

To answer this question you need to focus on lines 73 to the end and also consider the passage as a whole.

0.5 A student said, "It is clear Hartop is angry." How far do you agree with this view?
[10]

Some points that candidates may explore:

Whole text

- 'a thin, angular man, starved-faced'/harsh description of Hartop reflects his angry personality
- 'his big yellowish eyes fixed ahead with vigilance'/description is negative/'vigilance' creates the impression that he is looking for something/waiting for something to happen
- 'state of silent apprehension, their bodies not moving'/his impact on his family show he isn't a warm person/they seem scared of Mr Hartop
- The women seem to be waiting/expecting Mr Hartop to become angry/mad
- 'No, something dropped.'/insistence on something happening/seems on edge
- 'Alice, you get out,' Hartop said/treats his daughter harshly and with anger/lacks warmth and loving relationship
- Treatment of his daughter/wife is strained and hints at his constant anger
- 'Alice stood mute'/creates fear in Alice/afraid of his anger

Lines 73 to the end

- 'refused to start'/the van won't start which is a sign that Hartop will become angry especially after his annoyance at Alice
- 'Furious'/shows his anger at the van/situation
- 'mad jerks at the starting handle'/showing his anger and 'mad jerks' show his violent movements/showing his frustration
- 'silently staring through the windscreen'/Alice and her mother do not want to attract attention to themselves as they might face the brunt of Hartop's anger
- 'been in another world'/trying to remove themselves from the situation
- 'Swinging viciously'/repetition of the violent actions
- 'Hartop shouted'/voice represents his anger and frustrations
- 'No peace for the wicked'
- 'He'd had enough. Just about bellyful of life at the minute. It just seemed to be one thing after another'/reinforces the idea that he is mad and not just at the situation. Hartop seems to be angry/mad at life/their situation