

6.5 The function of a sequence of events

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 13 marks

Objective

Build the skills to explain what **interrupted chronology** does 效果.

You must be able to:

- state the three effects the CED names
- distinguish anticipation from suspense
- explain how withheld information builds tension
- answer a function question about structure

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ Three effects

Structures that interrupt chronology **can directly affect readers' experiences with a text by creating anticipation or suspense or building tension.**

■ Anticipation and suspense

Anticipation is expecting something; **suspense** is expecting it and not knowing when or how. Foreshadowing typically creates the first, and a delayed revelation the second.

■ Withheld information

Tension comes from a gap between what the reader knows and what they want to know. Interrupted chronology creates that gap deliberately.

■ The answer's form

"By beginning at X rather than Y, the text makes the reader read the intervening chapters looking for Z." Name the structure, name the effect on the reader, and connect them.

2 Practice

2.1 State the three effects the CED names.

[3]

2.2 Distinguish anticipation from suspense. [2]

2.3 Tension comes from a gap.

(a) State the gap. [2]

(b) Give the form of a function answer. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Interrupted chronology can create anticipation, suspense or [1]

- **A** build tension
 - **B** shorten the text
 - **C** change the genre
 - **D** remove the narrator
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3.2 Suspense differs from anticipation in that the reader also does not know [1]

- **A** when or how
 - **B** the title
 - **C** the author
 - **D** the setting
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3.3 A narrator mentions a locked room in chapter two and returns to it in chapter twenty.

(a) Name the effect. [1]

(b) Explain how the delay produces it. [2]

4 Go further

- work through the **6.5 The function of a sequence of events** lesson on the **Learn** page;
- read the **Longer Fiction or Drama II** section of the AP English Literature handout on the **Know** page.

Solutions

2.1 creating anticipation; creating suspense; building tension.

2.2 anticipation is expecting something; suspense is expecting it without knowing when or how.

2.3 (a) between what the reader knows and what they want to know. (b) "by beginning at X rather than Y, the text makes the reader read the intervening chapters looking for Z".

3.1 A. building tension.

3.2 A. when or how.

3.3 (a) suspense, and tension across the intervening chapters. (b) the reader is told something matters without being told why, and every intervening chapter is read against that unanswered question.