

## 9.3 Significant events in a plot

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: 12 marks

**KEY WORDS** accumulating events 事件的累积

### Objective

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Build the skills to explain **accumulating events** 事件的累积.

**You must be able to:**

- state what significant events often illustrate
- state what events do as they accumulate
- explain the CED's verb 'collide'
- distinguish accumulation from sequence

### 1 Worked examples

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

#### ■ What they illustrate

**Significant events often illustrate competing value systems that relate to a conflict present in the text.** An event is significant when it stages a conflict of values.

#### ■ Accumulation

**Events in a plot collide and accumulate to create a sense of anticipation and suspense.** Two verbs: they meet each other and they build up.

#### ■ 'Collide'

Collision is stronger than sequence. Events that collide interfere with one another — a decision made for one reason is undone by something set in motion earlier.

#### ■ Accumulation and sequence

A sequence is one thing after another; accumulation is one thing on top of another, so the weight increases. That increasing weight is where suspense comes from.

## 2 Practice

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**2.1** State what significant events often illustrate. [2]

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**2.2** State the two things events do as a plot develops. [2]

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**2.3** Accumulation is not sequence.

(a) State the difference. [2]

(b) State where suspense comes from. [1]

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## 3 Exam-style questions

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**3.1** Significant events often illustrate competing [1]

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|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** value systems
  - B** page counts
  - C** genres
  - D** narrators

**3.2** Events that “collide” [1]

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** interfere with one another
  - B** follow neatly
  - C** are unrelated
  - D** repeat

**3.3** A decision made in chapter three is undone by something set in motion in chapter one.

(a) State the CED's verb for this. [1]

(b) Explain how it produces suspense. [2]

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