**QUESTION – How is fear shown in the extract and throughout the play?**

**Task 1 - Examine the introduction and explain which is better and why?**

**Check does the intro focus on the question? Explain how or why?**

**Task 2 - PEA Examples – Check against the success criteria to see if all the steps below have been used.**

**Say what is good about each example and say what could be improved.**

**Success Criteria**

1. **Link to the question**
2. **Use PEA**
3. **Link to language or structure technique**
4. **Quote from the page**
5. **Explain what you think**
6. **Analyse the effect of the quote**
7. **Say what the writer’s intentions were**
8. **EXT: Explore how it links to the wider text and where this happens**

**Task 3 - Examine the conclusion and explain which is better and why?**

**Check does the conclusion focus on the question? Explain how or why?**

**Introduction 1**

Fear is a major theme in Blood Brothers, as a result of the way Mrs Lyons persuades Mrs Johnstone (Mrs J) to give up her baby near the start of the play. Following this unfortunate decision fear haunts both characters and follows them whenever they begin to feel secure and happy. Three events in the play which show fear are when Edward plays outside and Mrs Lyons gets worried, the fear of the different areas they live in but how close to Mickey they are and the fear of them finding out they are brothers.

***Question focus?***

***What is good?***

***What could be better?***

**Introduction 2**

In the play fear is always around. Most of the characters are scared of something. Mrs Johnstone is scared of the debt she is in and of bringing up all her children alone. Mrs Lyons is scared of being childless. Finally, Mickey is scared of being alone.

***Question focus?***

***What is good? What could be better?***

**PEA Example 1**

Immediately we see Mrs Lyons fear when she repeats her husbands name “Richard, Richard” and “I don’t care. I don’t care” showing that her state of mind is confused and fearful. It is normal for a young boy to go out to play and Edward has only been out for about an hour, when she called her husband home from work. Perhaps suggesting that she is irrational and scared of the unknown. Edward is a normal boy but she imagines all the terrible things that will happen if he continues to play with the rough Mickey from down the street. Russell is suggesting here that her fear is unfounded but exasperated by the differences in the social classes of the two families. This links to another event in the text when she moves away to get away from the Johnstone family but ironically they end up moving too. Eddie and Mickey meet again when Mickey says *“(he suddenly realises)* A Blood Brother” showing in the stage directions that he has a dawning realisation that Eddie is his childhood friend. Here it is an important meeting as they rekindle their friendship and it seems stronger than ever. Evidently, moving was not the magic solution that Mrs Lyons had hoped for. Here her fears of them continuing to be friends are realised.

***Check List –***

***What is good?***

***What could be better?***

**PEA Example 2**

Another example from the play that shows the fear is “I feel something terrible will happen, something bad.” which makes me think that she is aware of the terrible thing she has done and wants to get away from it. She persuaded Mrs J to give up her baby and wants to run away from her guilt maybe this is why she is scared.

***Check List –***

***What is good? What could be better?***

**PEA Example 3**

In the extract the final example of fear I would like to highlight is where Mrs Lyons turns superstitious “she is stopped by the shoes on the table…” which shows that she has now become more like the lower-class Mrs J, who was initially the only superstitious character, with Mrs L being suspicious of this. Now, she is literally stopped in her tracks as she thinks something bad will happen, metaphorically it suggests that she is changed and has stopped growing as a person. Her whole life now revolves around her fear that Edward will find out and be taken away from her.

***Check List –***

***What is good? What could be better?***

**Conclusion 1**

So, basically fear is shown loads in the play and that is why Mrs Lyons and Mrs Johnstone are not friendly.

***What is good? What could be better?***

**Conclusion 2**

In Blood Brothers it is clear that fear is presented through the two main female roles. Mrs Lyons shows fear in her everyday life, as a result of her deceit in the first part of the play, omitting to tell her husband of Edwards true birth mother. Mrs Johnstone also fears the consequences of her lies as she told Mickey and the other children that the ‘twinnie’ had died. Mickey is afraid when in prison and becomes depressed and Linda is fearful for his mental health and ability to overcome his issues. Overall, fear could have been used by Russell to highlight the way it doesn’t’ t matter how much money you have moral decisions you make are far more relevant in life.

***What is good? What could be better?***