

Question 1 (continued)

- (a) How does the man's reaction to the demolished car reflect his attitude towards its occupants? 1

The man tries to ignore the car and speeds up complaining. This shows that he says the accident is a personal inconvenience and cares little for the well-being of the occupants.

- (b) Hoffentlich... Jordan. What is the significance of the language features used in the last paragraph of this extract? 2

The use of the words mir and mich show that the man is only thinking of how the accident affects him. The repetition of "last sie liegen" demonstrates the man attempting to reassure himself and the use of a colloquial phrase "sind ja sowieso über'n Jordan" shows how lightly he treats the people's lives.

- (c) Cars play a central role in this short story. Comment on their significance in this extract and elsewhere in the story. 3

The colour, make and speed of the cars also give us an insight to the occupants as well as their brief descriptions and conversations. For example, in this extract the man is driving in a risky way and his thoughts also tend to suggest there is something he needs to hide. The black cars in the story may indicate death or guilt and the white car that crashed indicates the innocence and purity of the husband and wife who were killed.

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Question 1 (continued)

- (d) What is the significance of the title *Das Stenogramm* in terms of the style and structure of this short story? 3

Das Stenogramm, being a short hand dictation is reflected in the text through brief descriptions and short encounters. It is structured in very short paragraphs and this again is reflected in the idea of a short hand dictation. This translation also attributes to the report style of the story as short hand is often used in situations where information is gathered for reporting.

- (e) A parable is a story with a moral message. How effective is *Stenogramm* as a modern day parable? 6

By taking a cross section of society showing different kinds of people, this story effectively shows that any can be guilty of this moral indecency and everyone can relate on their own level to the story. It is also effective as a modern day parable because it doesn't express an opinion or use emotive language so it is not bias. *Stenogramm* effectively points out human weaknesses through satire of human folly. There is also irony used at the end when the policeman says he's surprised that nobody found them sooner and this is effective in getting the moral message across because the reader knows the truth. *Stenogramm* is very effective as a modern day parable because it uses several techniques that deliver an implicit moral message.

End of Question 1