**'Havisham' Textual Analysis Practice**

Beloved sweetheart bastard. Not a day since then

I haven’t wished him dead. Prayed for it

so hard I’ve dark green pebbles for eyes,

ropes on the back of my hands I could strangle with.

Spinster. I stink and remember. Whole days

in bed cawing Nooooo at the wall; the dress

yellowing, trembling if I open the wardrobe;

the slewed mirror, full-length, her, myself, who did this

to me? Puce curses that are sounds not words.

Some nights better, the lost body over me,

my fluent tongue in its mouth in its ear

then down till I suddenly bite awake. Love’s

hate behind a white veil; a red balloon bursting

in my face. Bang. I stabbed at a wedding cake.

Give me a male corpse for a long slow honeymoon.

Don’t think it’s only the heart that b-b-b-breaks.

**Questions**

Re read stanza 1

1. Analyse how the use of poetic techniques in this stanza creates an immediately sinister or threatening tone. **(3)**

Re read stanza 2

1. Analyse how the poetic techniques in this stanza helps to reveal the distress of the speaker.  **(3)**

Re read stanza 3

1. With close reference to the text, show how the poet conveys two contrasting feelings the speaker has for her former lover. **(2)**

Re read stanza 4

1. Evaluate the effectiveness of the final stanza as a conclusion to the poem. Your answer should deal with ideas and/or language.  **(2)**

**10 marks**