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| Speaker | Quote(s) | Comment(s) of Analysis |
| Alec | ***I was standing there, crying – real big deep sobs.***  ***I was me and I was not-me***  ***Everything was the same. It was very ordinary … I don't know what I had expected. A sign. Jesus to come walking across the back and tell me everything was alright.*** | The audience sympathises with him as the whole experience is surreal to him. THEME OF GRIEF AND LOSS  The older Alec reflects on his mother’s death and realises he was unsure of what to expect. THEME OF RELIGION  Both his religious faith and intelligence are demonstrated here, although he is mature enough to understand that faith does not always provide a solution. However, as the clouds separate, he imagines the patch of blue sky to be a sign from the heavens that his mother is safe and this comforts him. He tries to explain this later to Ian, but his less sensitive cousin Ian does not understand and thinks it is odd. THEME OF RELIGION/GRIEF AND LOSS |
| Davie | ***“Ah’ve got a bit of bad news for ye son … Yer mammy’s dead”***  ***“There's just you and me now son. We’ll have tae make the best of it.***”  “***Just you and me now son”***  ***“Isn't it funny the words ye use to describe things? Shattered.”*** | Echo in Alec's mind. Men of his social class and generation were not expected to display emotion and his attempt to continue as normal contrasts with his son’s THEME OF GRIEF AND LOSS  He is determined to make a good impression, telling Alec they need to tidy up He reveals his feelings of grief to the audience: he is determined to keep busy to forget his grief but then something trivial reminds him.  His repetition emphasises the importance of family for him. Davie’s grief and depression are preventing him from being a good parent and role-model as he acknowledges that the house is still a mess but it can be tidied tomorrow. This sums up Davie’s way of life and tomorrow never comes.  Davie is an intelligent man. He is seen to question why particular words are - ***Ah’m shattered***, after the funeral has two meanings - he is referring both to how tired he feels and to his broken life.  Relationship between Ian and Alec – Early in the Play   1. "(Lights up. IAN enters, running)” Discuss the significance of this stage direction. (2 marks) 2. "Your da sells stuff...Soon."   **Show how** Alec has complete faith in his father. (3 marks)   1. **Why** is it surprising that Davie is getting fish suppers for dinner “in the middle of the week”. (2 marks) 2. When they boys play, there is a sense of violence: "Make a great chib!...Make ye walk the plank!". Quote two examples of word choice which convey the violence behind their imaginative games. (4 marks) |

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1. Quote 2 reasons Davie gives Alec for drinking and explain how these could be considered lies/signs he is not coping.
2. What does Davie’s “nom de plume” suggest about him?

Billy