**PROSE ‘The Telegram’ Revision Essay topics.**

Plan then complete essays on the following questions. In the prelim, most pupils did not refer to the question enough, or answers were too thin. Remember to identify the key word or phrase in the question, then use this in every stage of your discussion.

Choose a novel **or** short story **or** work of non-fiction which has a key incident (such as the arrival of the telegram).

Give a brief account of the incident, and by referring to appropriate techniques,

show how this incident is important to the text as a whole.

Choose a novel **or** short story in which there is a character involved in some form of

conflict (such as that between the two women/and the greater conflict of war).

By referring to appropriate techniques, show how the character comes to be

involved in this conflict and how the conflict develops throughout the text.

Choose a novel **or** short story **or** a work of non-fiction which deals with a significant

event or experience or issue (such as being notified of a family death).

Give a brief account of the significant event or experience or issue. By referring to

appropriate techniques, explain how it is important to the text as a whole.

Choose a novel **or** short story in which there is a character you feel strongly about.

By referring to appropriate techniques, explain how the author creates this reaction

in you.

**Techniques to comment on:**

Use of setting – backdrop of war, which adds to sense of conflict/loss.

Characterisation – how each woman is portrayed

Symbolism – the idea of the telegram as a plague / missile – bringing destruction

Themes – impact of war / isolation /sacrifice

Key statements. *In the opening stages of the story, the author establishes…*

*As the story develops, the author further emphasises…*

*This is clearly shown through the author’s use of…*