

# Skill Builder: Section Pull Apart

Using the table below analyse as many different different authorial choices that you can find in the paragraph below.

**I went upstairs then and sat staring at my textbook. The black type blurred, the letters swimming into one another, and then changed to a bright red, the red of fresh blood. The blood was watery, flowing from Mama, flowing from my eyes.**

**Later, at dinner, Papa said we would recite sixteen different novenas\*. For Mama's forgiveness. And on Sunday, the first Sunday of Trinity, we stayed back after Mass and started the novenas. Father Benedict sprinkled us with holy water. Some of the holy water landed on my lips, and I tasted the stale saltiness of it as we prayed. If Papa felt Jaja or me beginning to drift off at the thirteenth recitation of the Plea to St. Jude, he suggested we start all over. We had to get it right. I did not think, I did not even think to think, what Mama needed to be forgiven for.**

*\*A novena is a traditional Catholic practice of prayer that is performed over nine successive days or weeks. It is often said in preparation for a significant feast day or for a specific intention or request. Novenas can be conducted privately or in a group and are a way for the faithful to seek spiritual intervention or express their devotion.*

- Don't forget that when we analyse authorial choices at Level One, we need to be able to
  - Accurately identify the choice
  - State the effect (evoke, imply, emphasise)
  - Justify why the authorial choice achieves the effect
- You can use the following sentence structure to help you.  
'The (authorial choice) (effect) because (justification).'
- [Avoid these mistakes at Level One](#)

Authorial Choices	Analyse the section here
Metaphor	
Visual Imagery	
Parallelism	
Fragment	
Gustatory Imagery	
Father instructing the family	
Strong modal verb	
Hyperbole	

Once you have attempted this activity for yourself, [click here for some possible answers](#).