

Unseen - Article | Sample Answer

Based on what you have read in the above script, explain whether you would, or you would not like to listen to the entire documentary, Fantastic Beasts and the People who Love Them. Refer to aspects of the script to support your response.
(Question 1, 2017)

I would like to listen to the entire documentary. I found the hyperbole and use of aesthetic language extremely appealing. It created an atmosphere of anticipation and adventure, inspiring that childlike part of each of us which wonders: could it be true?

The use of sound effects also enhances the ambiance. It appeals to the senses of the reader. By listening to the sounds of the lake they can visualise the scene more clearly in their minds e.g. 'birdsong, waves crashing' causes images of gliding seagulls and a tumultuous spring to mind.

I also found the use of hard evidence intriguing. The story of Sean Corcoran and the carcass of such a large beast as the greater black-backed gull provoked questions to arise in my mind: 'what caused this?', 'could something unnatural be behind the strange occurrence?'

The relaxed tone of the piece and affable overtures made by Shane Dunphy also assisted in putting me at ease. It made the documentary more enjoyable. The evidence sanity of the speaker soothes the inner scepticism which arises in all of us at the words 'sea monster'. Even someone firmly disbelieving in such a phenomenon may be persuaded to appreciate the documentary for its light-hearted, non-judgemental commentary.