Quickly, but with great care, the Doctor walked along the narrow passage he was creating through the mass of spiders. Louie gingerly followed, making sure to precisely match the Doctor's footsteps. The Doctor was nearly free of them when Louie saw a spider atop a crate about to pounce. He shouted a warning and with lightning speed the Doctor swung the sonic up at the spider which scurried away.

Suddenly they were free of them. Spinning around the Doctor moved the sonic in a semi-circular motion preventing the spiders from advancing.

'Good man,' he grinned, slapping Louie on the back cheerily. But Louie's brow was furrowed.

'I don't get it, we saw maybe 15 of those toy spiders, but there are hundreds of them now. Where are they coming from?'

'I don't think these boxes are empty,' replied the Doctor as he gazed around at the thousands of stacked containers that surrounded them. The colour drained from Louie's face. The Doctor seemed to want to pace, but couldn't as he kept the spiders at bay.

'Here, let me,' suggested Louie, his arm outstretched. The Doctor handed him the sonic.

'Just keep this button pressed and...'

'I got it Doctor,' smiled Louie despite everything, calmer now they were out of immediate danger. The Doctor started pacing, muttering to himself, drumming his fingers against the side of his head.

'Doctor, the spiders, they're hardly moving.' Instantly the Doctor was at his side.

'That's interesting. I wonder...' The Doctor took the sonic and deactivated it. The spiders had stopped moving altogether.

'Did your device kill them?'

'My sonic screwdriver? No, besides, they were never alive to begin with. See?'

Before Louie could protest the Doctor grabbed the nearest spider and held it in front of Louie's face. He tapped on it. 'Plastic.' The Doctor tossed it in the air and then expertly kicked it into the distance.

'Come on, I want to take a look inside that box the man had earlier.' As they walked back towards where they had met, the new friends failed to see two glowing red eyes watching them.

'He's not here!' exclaimed Louie as they rounded the corner. Breaking into a run he raced over to the box.

'Don't touch... it.' The Doctors voice trailed off as Louie opened the flaps and peered inside. 'Why does nobody ever listen to me? Why?'

'It's some kind of machinery.'

'Is it now?' said the Doctor as he knelt beside Louie. 'Now that's interesting. A bit of a botch job but - ' The Doctor abruptly stopped talking as that laugh echoed around them, taunting them, but this time, it was closer, much closer.

Silhouetted in the darkness was the man from earlier, pushing a wooden wheelchair. As he approached, they could see a decrepit creature, vaguely humanoid, hunched over in the chair. It had leathery skin and dark eyes sunken into its face. Louie had to look away.

'Don't get up,' said the Doctor as he approached, extending his hand. The creature didn't move. 'You don't belong here.'

'But you do?' The creature was toying with him.

'End this.'

'Why should I want to do that? I like it here, it's... fun. And with Justin here to help me, I can have everything I desire, everything...'

'And that justifies murdering him?'

'He died of fright Doctor, hardly my fault.'

'And that gives you right the animate his corpse?'

'Oh come now, I'm merely... recycling.'

'But you miscalculated didn't you?' said the Doctor confidently.

'Did I?' Again the mocking tone in its voice.

'You didn't know I would be here to detect your energy signature.'

Unable to face the being in the wheelchair, Louie was looking around, when he noticed the red eyes moving towards them. He tugged on the Doctor's jacket. The Doctor glanced down at Louie then followed his gaze, seeing the eyes for the first time. Ignoring the chuckling from behind, the pair saw a blue light start to throb around the eyes. It was one of the crystal skulls the Doctor had examined earlier, flying through the air towards them.

Two beams of red light shot from the skull's eyes. The Doctor and Louie instinctively ducked, the beams impacting the boxes behind them which exploded. They were trapped; the skull on one side of them, the alien on the other.

Louie's heart was thumping, it felt as though it was going to jump out of his chest. The skull was throbbing, waiting, taunting them before it struck them down. It was then Louie realized.

'Doctor the skull, it's throbbing in sync with my heart. As my heart beats faster, the skull throbs more.'

'Oh, that's clever.' The Doctor addressed the alien, but never took his eyes off the skull. 'You're feeding on Louie's fear, that's what your device is for.'

'Human fear isn't directly compatible with my... digestive system, I need a conduit through which to feed. And Hallowe'en, such a superstitious ritual, so much fear.'

'Louie, stay calm. The calmer we both are, the weaker it is.' Louie deliberately tried to slow his breathing and he could feel his heartbeat returning to normal.

The creature roared, and with one last furious burst of energy, the skull throbbed brightly. Instinctively Louie grabbed the device at his feet to shield himself, just as the lasers fired again.

The machine exploded and instantly the skull crashed to the floor, shattering. The explosion had started a fire and grabbing Louie's hand, the Doctor made towards the alien but their path was blocked by the rapidly spreading flames. Justin lay on the floor, no longer animated, free at last. The creature in the chair seemed trapped by the fire that threatened to engulf it. The Doctor yelled, 'Get out of here!' but smoke and flames prevented Louie seeing what happened to the alien.

Louie and the Doctor turned and ran in the opposite direction. The heat was unbearable; they had to reach the door. As they neared the entrance, the Doctor took off his jacket, wrapping it around his hand. The metal handle was red hot, but without the alien's malevolent influence he was able to slide it open with ease and they ran outside. The Doctor scooped up Louie's bike as they ran. They dove behind a wall surrounding a nearby building when a massive explosion tore through the warehouse.

3. You now need to think about the whole of the source.

How has the writer structured the text to interest you as a reader?

You could write about:

• what the writer focuses your attention on at the beginning

• how and why the writer changes this focus as the source develops

• any other structural features that interest you.

[8 marks]

4. Focus this part of your answer on the second part of the source from line 37 to the

end.

A student, having read this section of the text, said: “The writer successfully creates a tense and horrifying atmosphere.”

To what extent do you agree?

In your response, you could:

• consider your own impressions of the creature, Louie and the Doctor

• evaluate how the writer creates a tense and horrifying atmosphere

• support your opinions with references to the text.

[20 marks]