**Task 1:**

Using the assessment objectives, question and the following extract – assess how well the model paragraph hits the assessment objectives.

**Assessment objectives for English Literature**

* AO1: Read, understand and respond to texts. Students should be able to:
  + maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response
  + use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.
* AO2: Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.
* AO3: Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.

Read the extract below

It was late in the afternoon, when Mr Utterson found his way to Dr Jekyll's door,

where he was at once admitted by Poole, and carried down by the kitchen offices

and across a yard which had once been a garden, to the building which was

indifferently known as the laboratory or the dissecting-rooms. The doctor had

bought the house from the heirs of a celebrated surgeon; and his own tastes being

rather chemical than anatomical, had changed the destination of the block at the

bottom of the garden. It was the first time that the lawyer had been received in

that part of his friend’s quarters; and he eyed the dingy, windowless structure with

curiosity, and gazed round with a distasteful sense of strangeness as he crossed the

theatre, once crowded with eager students and now lying gaunt and silent, the

tables laden with chemical apparatus, the floor strewn with crates and littered with

packing straw, and the light falling dimly through the foggy cupola. At the further

end, a flight of stairs mounted to a door covered with red baize; and through this,

Mr Utterson was at last received into the doctor’s cabinet. It was a large room,

fitted round with glass presses, furnished, among other things, with a cheval-glass

and a business table, and looking out upon the court by three dusty windows barred

with iron. The fire burned in the grate; a lamp was set lighted on the chimney

shelf, for even in the houses the fog began to lie thickly; and there, close up to the

warmth, sat Dr Jekyll, looking deadly sick. He did not rise to meet his visitor, but

held out a cold hand and bade him welcome in a changed voice.

**How does Stevenson create a sense of foreboding (a feeling that something bad will happen) in the opening of ‘Incident of the letter’?**

**Model Answer:**

In the gothic novella ‘The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde’ by Robert Louis Stevenson, there is a sense of foreboding throughout the novella that draws the reader in. Victorian audiences were fascinated by the supernatural and unknown which caused them to participate in things such as seances or reading gothic literature, therefore Stevenson chose to play into this fascination by adding certain elements to his novella.

There is a sense of foreboding established in the juxtaposition of the way the laboratory was in the past to what it is now. By contrasting that it was “once crowded with eager students and now lying gaunt and silent” highlights the eeriness of the room. The use of the adjectives “gaunt” and “silent” evoke images of death and a feeling of foreboding. Furthermore, the fact that the laboratory was “once crowded” but is now empty allows the reader to imagine how strange and sinister the laboratory is now. As well as being fascinated by the supernatural, Victorian audiences were also interested in the advancement of modern science. However, as it was still in its infancy, there were gruesome stories of people stealing bodies to experiment on, so the laboratory within the house would have seemed both fascinating and terrifying.

**Task 2:**

Write your own paragraph based on the question and extract given