**Essay 1 – The Pedestrian**

**Introduction**

* Author
* Name of text
* BRIEF plot summary (this could be in your opening line)
* Refer to task – what is the unnatural, aspect of existence that you are going to talk about?
* REFER TO THE SECOND PART OF THE QUESTION eg.

*Bradbury is successful in highlighting the unnatural aspect of human existence though his use of imagery, setting, characterisation and irony, amongst other techniques.*

1. **Discuss the opening**
* - Think about the setting – what is it like? Why is it unnatural?
* -dark imagery - houses
* -dystopian society – what is it about it that isn’t natural?
1. **Imagery**
* Death-like imagery – what does it suggest? Think about word choice and connotations

***“dark windows”***

***“not unlike walking through a graveyard”***

***“tomb-like buildings”***

1. **Characterisation**

-Mead as isolated in his society. He does not conform to ‘normal’ social conventions, and rebels against authority – he goes out for a walk when there is no reason to. We learn that humans have no need to leave their home – everything they need to know is shown on TV. Technology has meant that basic human interactions are not needed. Nature and social tendencies have been taken over by technology

-Mead refuses to be brain washed by the State, and does not allow his mind to be ‘dulled’.

-In oppose to the rest of the text, Bradbury uses natural, positive images when Mead is out walking. This acts as a pleasant contrast to the dark imagery in the rest of the text. It also shows Mead’s satisfaction when breathing in the fresh November air:

***“crystal frost*”** makes his lungs ***“blaze like a Christmas tree”*** > positive connotations of Xmas, happiness etc.

1. **The Police Car**

-A symbol of all that is wrong with the society

-imagery associated with the police car is harsh, cold, threatening

-frequent use of word choice linked to metallic, robotic, mechanical idea

-think about the fact that the crime rate is low, but as a consequence, the society are not in touch with themselves or nature

-the police car cannot comprehend why Mead was walking – any sense of creativity is no longer understood in this society >this is why Mead doesn’t even believe in himself as a writer

***“Walking, just walking, walking?”***

**5) Irony**

-The irony is that Mead is arrested for doing a completely normal thing. He is sent to a psychiatric unit and yet he is probably the only sane person there.

- Think about the fact that walking is referred to as “regressive tendencies” >to regress is to deteriorate

**Conclusion**

- Author

-Title of text

- Final point

- PERSONAL OPINION

\*\*You may want to discuss SYMBOLISM as a technique, and look at the ending of the story as a final point

On the way to the asylum, they pass Mead’s house. It is ablaze with lights. This acts as a CONTRAST to the dark city.

It is a symbol of hope - light is a universal symbol of hope, but the car is swallowed up once more into darkness (literally and figuratively). This could symbolise that hope is not enough. The city has been brain washed for so long that there is no coming back to the world that Mead hopes for.

***“electric light brilliantly lit, every window a loud yellow illumination”***

\*\*\*You may also want to talk about the fact that there is an anti-climatic ending > this also suggests that all hope is lost.