

## Task for *Sonam and the Silence*

### Worked example: semiotic systems in the text

Semiotic system	What can you identify in the text and what meaning does this have for the reader?
<p>Linguistic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letters</li> <li>• Words</li> <li>• Grammar</li> <li>• Vocabulary</li> </ul>	<p>The first letter of the text is highlighted or featured (visual feature). Does this signal a new adventure? A new page?</p>
<p>Visual:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frame/shot</li> <li>• Angle</li> <li>• Colour</li> <li>• Lighting</li> <li>• Intertextuality</li> <li>• Objects as symbols</li> </ul>	<p>Framing/shot:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long shot on main picture, giving information about the setting. Making explicit how the character is involved in (or, in this case, removed from) the place in which she lives.</li> </ul> <p>Colour:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black cars and black buildings in the market, giving information that it is a miserable, busy, dark place.</li> </ul>
<p>Gestural:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expressions</li> <li>• Gestures</li> <li>• Movement</li> <li>• Gaze</li> <li>• Proximity</li> <li>• Physical contact</li> <li>• Facial expressions</li> <li>• Body language</li> </ul>	<p>Movement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sonam is floating upside down in the middle of the page. Symbolic of her world being turned upside down.</li> </ul> <p>Proximity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Far from cars and other people/objects. Sonam is disconnected from those around her. She feels alone.</li> </ul> <p>Facial expression:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blank, dull, lifeless, not knowing what to do.</li> </ul>
<p>Spatial:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Layout and landscape</li> <li>• How things are organised</li> <li>• How things are placed on a page</li> <li>• Setting and props</li> </ul>	<p>Large, foreboding trees. How are these trees different to the trees on the next page? They're lifeless, leafless, with no freedom to sway in the wind.</p>