Mark Character Question Class Write

Mark’s character motivation in this extract is that he is trying to be persuasive and trying to stay calm throughout the extract. He is attempting to deflect his own sense of guilt and get a reaction from the others to make himself feel better. We can see this in the line ‘Eh John…’. Mark is trying to justify his actions.

The actor playing Mark could use posture and movement by altering his posture from upright and confident at the start of the extract to a more ‘slouched’ posture near the end. The actor should start to close up his/her posture on the line ‘You could tell’, as this is where the character starts to accept his guilt. The actor should start to pace and run his hands through his hair as soon as Mark and Jans’ dialogue becomes more fractured.

Gesture could be used at the start of the extract when the actor would not make eye contact with anyone else. This would show nervousness. He should gesture to Jan by nudging and making eye contact with Jan when he says ‘You know what he’s like, he was sort of hanging around’. He might also bite his lips at certain points in the extract. The actor might also edge towards the others and incline his head to invite agreement.

Facial expressions would range from positive expressions such as smiling, to nervous expressions such as looking down and pausing in dialogue e.g. ‘sort of’. He might raise or furrow his eyebrows on the line ‘he was laughing’ to emphasise what he’s saying, but betraying the underlying guilt.