Moondial answers

Lesson 1

What does the inclusion of the question 'and why should you?' suggest about the house and its grounds?

It suggests that the house and grounds are not somewhere that could be visited easily or somewhere you would choose to visit. It suggests that the house and grounds are far away from people and places.

What does the author describe as "your fifth sense"?

The author describes 'sight' as the fifth sense.

Lesson 2

Record vocabulary from the text relating to the five senses.

Sound - hooting, scuff, clamouring, sobbing

Taste – uprush of fear

Touch - ungiving touch of stone, mighty wind blowing

Smell - ancient, musty scent, curious green odour

Sight – slow silver light yawns over the garden, statues loom, glass of the orangery gleams like water, the shadow, a huge stone man, great, moon washed face, windows blank, shuttered, and disappearing garden.

Lesson 3

What is the effect the author creates?

The author creates a secretive, mysterious and frightening effect.

Examples – most dark and secret place, hooting of a lone owl, curious green odour, uprush of fear, statues loom, alert as a fox, tingle of the spine, sudden chill, shudder, lifting of the hairs at the back of your neck, certain you are being watched, turn slowly, half dreading, hints, whispers, secrets, you run, voices clamouring in that empty place, remember afterwards with a shudder, lonely sobbing of a child.

Do they make the reader feel like they are there?

Yes, you do feel like you are there.

Achieved by:

Expanded noun phrases which bring the setting to life e.g. curious green odour

Descriptive vocabulary builds up the images e.g. hooting

Figurative language builds up the image e.g. statues loom

Rhetorical questions which involve the reader e.g. and why should you?

Speaking directly to the reader e.g. if you should chance...

Do they create an atmosphere of suspense?

Yes, there is an atmosphere of suspense, which is created by a slow build-up of the senses including a sixth sense. The senses make you feel like the narrator is being watched and they are sensing and waiting for the terrible things that are about to happen to them.

Examples – Most dark and secret place, you put out a hand, fifth sense restored, all five sense sharp, alert as a fox, a tingle of the spine, a sudden chill, shudder, the presence you feel is all about you now, you are certain you are being watched, turn slowly, half dreading, that strange sixth sense

Lesson 4

What is the effect of the repetition of the word 'certain'?

The author is emphasising the point that it definitely happened. The author is absolutely sure that they are being watched.

The prologue is written in the second person ("you") and present tense. How does this add to its effectiveness?

It draws the reader into the text as if they were there to. It also makes you feel like these things are happening at that moment which will make the reader feel more nervous and frightened.