Describe an important relationship in the novel and explain why it is important.

In the novel ‘Coming Back’ by David Hill, an important relationship is between Tara Gower and Ryan O’Carroll. This relationship is important because it shows forgiveness. The novel is set in New Zealand in the 1990’s.

Ryan did not know Tara until the night he accidentally hit her when she was crossing the road. Ryan only had his Restricted licence and was not supposed to be carrying passengers, but he was .He was driving down the road when his friend distracted him and he turned away from what was in front of him and in that split second he hit Tara. After he hit her he felt extremely guilty. “If only” he said several times throughout the novel.

This relationship is important because it shows the power of forgiveness. At first Tara was furious that someone had hit her in their car and that no one had told her Ryan was the driver. “If I ever find the guy who did this to me ill bloody rip his guts out!” Ryan was so guilty he offered to help Tara in hospital to undo the physical damage he caused her and the emotional damage he suffered. After all, he got her into this situation so he thought he would get her out of it. Their relationship developed as Ryan kept visiting her. He organised for her to throw off at the netball and she loved it. As a result she forgave him.

In conclusion, their relationship was very important. Ryan could have chosen to forget about it and move on with his life. Because he didn’t it showed he was caring and knew had had done wrong. I believe Tara’s recovery would have been slower and more traumatic if it wasn’t for their relationship.

By Harrison

A high Merit level essay. Good structure. Conclusion could be better by linking the theme to our society today and what WE can learn from the theme.