


# Close Reading Formulae

<p> <b>UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS</b></p> <p>This type of question is designed to check you understand the meaning, language and ideas of the passage. Understanding questions are marked with a (U) code.</p>	<p><b>Own Words (U)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Find the correct lines.</li><li>• Check number of marks.</li><li>• Re-write in your own words.</li><li>• Check you haven't copied key words from the passage.</li></ul>
<p><b>"Quote" (word/phrase/expression) (U)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Find the correct lines.</li><li>• Check whether the question asks for a word or phrase.</li><li>• Write down exactly as it is in passage.</li></ul>	<p><b>Context (U)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Find 2 words or phrases from the surrounding sentence(s) that clarify the meaning.</li><li>• Explain what 'clues' they give you about the word's meaning.</li><li>• Write down the word's meaning</li></ul>
<p><b>Link (U)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Summarise what the previous section is about.</li><li>• Quote words from the link sentence which refer back to this.</li><li>• Summarise what is being said in the section following the link sentence.</li><li>• Quote a word or phrase from the link sentence which introduces the next section.</li></ul>	<p><b>Summarise (U)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify the key points / issues from the relevant section.</li><li>• Change these points into your own words.</li><li>• Bullet point if appropriate.</li><li>• Check the marks available as a guide to how many points you are required to summarise.</li></ul>



### ANALYSIS QUESTIONS

This type of question is designed to check you can identify specific literary techniques being used. You must also analyse them (break them down) and evaluate how they add to the reader's understanding of the passage's meaning.

### Word Choice (A)

- Quote the word and give its basic meaning
- Give the word's connotations (associated ideas)
- Explain how the word's connotations develop the reader's understanding of the passage

### Imagery(A) (Simile, Metaphor, Personification)

- Identify the type of image
- Quote it
- Say what is compared to what
- Use "just as... so too..."
- Say what the comparison adds to the reader's understanding of the passage.

### Contrast (A) (2 opposing ideas, words, images...)

- Pick out one side of the contrast and summarise it. Support with a quote.
- Pick out the other side of the contrast and summarise it. Support with a quote.



### Sentence Structure:

You may be asked to comment on:

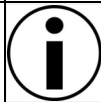
- Punctuation
- Sentence length
- Sentence types
- Sentence patterns

### Sentence Structure (A)

- Identify the feature of structure being used.
- Comment on the effect of the structure on the reader's understanding of the passage.

### Tone (A)

- Identify the tone.
- Quote words or phrases that create this tone
- Analyse *how* those words/phrases create the tone.



### Tone Bank

Informal; Humorous; Light Hearted; Whimsical; Gently Mocking

Sarcastic; Mocking; Ironic

Formal; Questioning; Outraged; Angry; Critical; Sinister

Nostalgic; Reverential; Reflective; Awed

Disappointed; Uncertain; Doubtful



## EVALUATION QUESTIONS

This type of question can ask you to consider:

- How well a paragraph or line acts as an introduction or conclusion.
- How a title relates to the passage.
- How an anecdote, image, illustration or other technique helps convey the writer's overall argument or attitude.

## Evaluation (E)

The key to answering these questions is to identify an appropriate feature or technique and show how it relates to the writer's purpose, attitude or overall line of argument.



## QUESTION ON BOTH PASSAGES

**This final question is testing your ability to summarise and compare the main points and ideas in both passages.**

**3 of the 5 available marks are awarded for identifying similarities and/or differences.**

**The further 2 marks are awarded depending on the quality of the comments you make, and any supporting evidence you use.**

[Write your answer as 'developed bullet points'.]

- Check if the question is about areas of *agreement* or *disagreement*.
- Identify at least 3 overall areas on which the passages agree/disagree.
- Bullet point these areas, then add further explanation to each bullet point by identifying specific *ideas, images, anecdotes, illustrations, statistics or analogies* which support these areas of agreement/ disagreement.  
When developing your bullet point, you may quote or paraphrase from the passages.