



WHAT, HOW and WHY all help you develop your explanation, inference, analysis & interpretation.

The further you can go with your analysis, the more sophisticated your answer will be.



WHAT



What do you learn about:

- Character
- Setting
- Mood
- Atmosphere
- Action
- Relationships

What is your response to the question?

What are your ideas about a text?

What is presented to the reader?

What is the writer trying to show us?

The 'what' usually comes before the 'how' and 'why'.





HOW



How do you learn about:

- Character
 - Setting
 - Mood
- Atmosphere
 - Action
- Relationships

How are they presented?
How are techniques used?
How is language used?
How is structure used?
How is a particular effect created?

The 'how' is all about method. Which methods are used to reveal something to you? Link this back to the 'what'. How do the writer's methods prove your 'what'? How do they show the 'what'?





WHY



Why has the writer used this? What do they want to show you? What does it reveal about context/attitudes.

Why has this particular technique been used?

Why has this word been used?

Why has this sentence type been used?

Why has this paragraph length been used?

Why has it been structured in this way?

Now you've built a response, why not try adding an alternative or additional interpretation?

In addition...

The writer is also...

It could also be viewed as...

When the writer...it could also suggest that...

Furthermore the use of...may also suggest...



The 'why' refers to author intention and message.



How to Analyse



How to analyse **technique**:

- **What** technique is used?
- **What** is the effect?
- **What** does it say about character/setting/action/relationships/mood?
- **Why** has it been used?
- **How** does it reinforce the message?
- **How** does it reinforce or reflect the themes?
- Can you double up on the techniques used?

How to analyse **language**:

- **What** word stands out?
- **What** is the effect?
- **What** does it say about character/setting/action/relationships/mood?
- **Why** has it been used?
- **How** does it reinforce the message?
- **How** does it reinforce or reflect the themes?
- **How** does it reinforce the effect of the overall technique?

How to analyse **structure**:

- **What** kind of sentences have been used?
- **What** is the structure of the novel/poem/story/extract/chapter?
- **Why** has it been used/presented in this way?
- **What** is the effect?
- **What** does it say about character/setting/action/relationships/mood?
- **How** does it reinforce the message?
- **How** does it reinforce or reflect the themes?

Key words to help you develop your analysis:

Implies
Suggests
Reflects
Shows
Reveals