

Question Stems for Unit 1

YOU MUST:

- Read from the top of the page
- Label up both texts
- Do Where What Focus for the first question and the read and underline!
- Do this then for every question!

The most important thing is that you carefully read the extract and work out:

- What is the message? What is the purpose? Why has this been written?
- Who is it for? Is the writer being sarcastic or funny?
- What is it actually about? Be very clear about these bullet point please!

In your answers use connectives eg firstly, also, next etc

1. List or find

- Bullet points (copied quotes or own words from the text)
- Never use sentences – but it must make sense!
- Put each different point on a new line!
- Try to do 2 extra (ie if it asks for 5 things, do 7)

2.What – there are different ways of approaching this question! Be careful

a) What impression is given of...

b) What are your thoughts and feelings... [I think... I feel...]

c) What's the writer's attitude...

Any what question that needs you to say your opinions needs to be done in this way:

Pick out evidence (quote or own words)

+ Comment on evidence (keeping question in mind)

Put the word "shows" or "suggests" in the middle of each sentence.

Pick out + comment x 8

d) What impression do YOU get...

Just like above but make sure that you give your opinions and back them up using the text.

NB Sometimes the what question is a simple picking out question.

You must use the formulas plus your common sense to work this out! THINK before you answer!

e) What do we find out...

Any what question that just needs you to let the examiner know that you can pick information out of a text – do just that. Underline on the sheet and then use full sentences to write what you have found. (It is like a list question but without the bullet points/use full sentences!).

3. 'How' = stem word in question.

- pick out evidence (quote or in your own words)
- comment on the evidence (keeping the set question in mind)
- ** You MUST then try to say a bit more either about what the content (ideas) let you know OR for more marks, you should comment on the words and phrases that the writer has used. (For a C comment on words and phrases!) Eg The word _____ means _____ which suggest _____ Pick out + comment +comment OR Pick out + comment + analyse.
5 paragraphs needed!

4. WHY?

Pick out between 10 and 12 opinions/reasons from the text. Write them into a paragraph. Be logical and methodical. Use connectives and in your sentences either use short quotations (embedded in your own sentences) and/or paraphrase what has been written (use your own words).

5. EXPLAIN why... [Be careful!]

Just explain carefully, like a list but full sentences and use connectives HOWEVER if you can comment on any of these to show further precise understanding then you should!

EXPLAIN how...

Evidence (quote or own words) + full comments that are detailed and show a good understanding of what you have read. (Not necessary to pick out specific words to analyse!) This is like a what question! 8 PO + C.

6. Compare/contrast – usually A4 question

Look inside this for other stem words, but usually you are looking at the content and just showing that you can see what is similar and what is different. Often you are told to use sub-headings. Read this question carefully!

Do everything from one text that fits the focus of the question then write a CONNECTIVE (Likewise/similarly/however) then write everything from the other text that fits the focus! Use headings if it asks you to! This is a picking out question, but it needs to be clearly organised!
Do 12 points overall!

* Always consider why the work you are reading has been written eg to persuade. Then look for how the writer tries to achieve his/her aim eg look for persuasive techniques.