GCSE English Language Knowledge Organiser – ANALYSING

EXAMPLES OF 'ANALYSIS' QUESTIONS

'How does the writer…'

'What impressions are created of…and how does the writer present…?

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO TO ANALYSE A TEXT?

- Highlight and understand the focus of the question.
- Read the text thoroughly and highlight any key details that can be used in your answer.
- Think about the language by selecting words and phrases chosen by the writer.
- Consider the effect of the selected words and phrases by suggesting how the writer is trying to make the reader react/feel.
- Discuss any techniques used by the writer and the effect they have on the reader.
- Link your comments back to the focus of the question.

EXAMPLES OF TECHNIQUES TO CONSIDER

Similes	Used to compare something in the text to something similar. Similes use 'like' or 'as' to compare.
Metaphors	A way of describing someone or something by showing their similarity to something else.
Listing	Many ideas or reasons to strengthen the point being made.
Repetition	Used for emphasising a point or an idea.
Rhetorical questions	Used to make the reader consider what the answer might be to a question asked.
Expert opinions	Used to make the reader trust the ideas put forward in a text.

USING EVIDENCE

Evidence is something that helps to prove that what you are saying is true. When talking about evidence in relation to analysis, it means that you need to prove your point by using a short quotation from the text that you have read.

Step 1: Think about which sections of the text support the point or points you want to make.

Step 2: Highlight the evidence while working through the text – only highlight relevant details.

Step 3: Ask yourself how this piece of evidence works, what the purpose is and if it uses any specific techniques.

Step 4: When you begin to write your answer, review the evidence you have selected to make sure it makes a valid point and is relevant to the question.

Indented quotations

These are used for longer quotations. Rather than using quotation marks, you place the quotation on a new line, and indent the entire quotation to mark it apart from your own words.

Embedded quotations

This is the sort of quotation you will use most often. It appears within the body of your own writing, placed within quotation marks ("…") and you use it to quote a few words from a text.