

STRUCTURE

The basics:

- Question 3
- 8 marks; 15 minutes; 3-4 paragraphs
- Focus on writers' use of structure, not language.
- Structure: the journey the writer takes you on across the extract.
- The question will ALWAYS include information on the positioning of the extract within the whole text; for example, 'This text is from the beginning of the novel'.

How to do it:

1. **Underline** the focus of the question – your points must be linked to this.
2. **Identify** the beginning, middle and end part of the extract.
3. **Make a quick note** of what happens in the beginning, middle and end.
Narrow each down to one sentence or word. This will give you an overview of the 'journey' the reader is taken on through the text.
4. **Paragraph 1: what happens at the beginning** of the extract? Why might the writer start it like this? What is the effect?
5. **Paragraph 2: what does the focus shift to** as the extract develops? Why? What is the impact of this? What is the effect on atmosphere or pace?
6. **Paragraph 3: what happens at the end** of the extract? What is the effect of this? What is the impact on the reader?

key vocab:

- Shifts
- Focus
- Develops
- Repeats
- Pattern
- Contrast
- Tension
- Foreshadows
- Short sentence
- Atmosphere
- Narrative pace
- Narrative perspective
- Flashback (analepsis)
- Flash forward (prolepsis)

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SENTENCE STARTERS

Paragraph 1 – Beginning

In the opening of the extract, the writer [*immediately*] focusses the reader's attention on... This is significant because the writer may be establishing...
As the extract is from [*the opening of the novel*], it is likely that [*this character is important*]...
The first person narrative, [*quote*], may enable the reader to feel...
The third person narrative, '*.*', may result in a sense of emotional detachment between...
The writer's use of present tense narrative creates a sense of immediacy...
Being written in past tense, the writer creates a [*distance between reader and narrator*]...
The use of a [*child/adult*] narrator has the effect of...

Paragraph 2 – Middle

As the extract develops, the writer shifts the focus from _____, to _____.
The writer [*gradually/suddenly*] shifts the reader's focus to...
The writer [*gradually/suddenly*] introduces the reader to...
The sentence ' _____ ' is structurally important for bringing about a change in atmosphere...
The writer focuses/zooms in on... this may be to [*establish/emphasise/exaggerate etc.*]...
There is a shift in [*perspective/time/place/atmosphere etc.*] when...
The writer's use of dialogue... This impacts the reader because...
The writer's intention may have been... / The writer may have done this to... / The effect of...
The writer repeats to idea of... / There is a pattern of...
The narrative pace [*slows/increases*] when...

Paragraph 3 – End

In the final paragraph[s] the atmosphere shifts to...
Towards the end of the extract, our focus is on...
The writer returns to the idea of...
The writer repeats...
At the end of the extract, the writer uses analepsis (*flashback*) to bring our attention to...
At the end of the extract, the writer uses prolepsis (*flash forward*) to bring our attention to...
The writer uses a cyclical structure, returning to the original focus of... This may be to...

These are examples. Vary them depending on the extract you are given.