

Writers Methods

GCSE English · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

Build a full method chain: 'Hard and sharp' (A Christmas Carol).

Step 1 · Method

Simile.

Step 2 · Evidence

'Hard and sharp'

Step 3 · Effect

Scrooge seems cold, unbreakable and dangerous to touch.

Step 4 · Purpose

Dickens makes his starting point extreme so that his change is more striking and persuasive.

Answer: Method → evidence → effect → purpose in one or two sentences.

Check: All four links present.

2. Now try one with the steps

Analyse a FORM choice: why is Macbeth's 'Is this a dagger...' a soliloquy?

Step 1 · Form

Step 2 · Effect

Step 3 · Purpose

Answer:

3. Practice

Show your working. The marks tell you how much is expected.

1. What are the three kinds of method assessed under AO2? [1]

2. What are the four links in the method chain? [1]

3. What is a soliloquy? [1]

4. Give two writer-focused verbs. [1]
-
-
5. Is a sonnet a language, form or structure feature? [1]
-
-
6. Improve this effect: 'The simile makes the reader want to read on.' [2]
-
-
7. Explain one effect of narrative voice in Jekyll and Hyde. [2]
-
-
8. Why is a stage direction strong evidence of a playwright's intentions? [2]
-
-
9. Identify the method and its effect: 'Marley was dead: to begin with.' [2]
-
-
10. Why is a structural method sometimes more powerful than a language method? [2]
-
-
11. Analyse the form of the Romeo and Juliet Prologue. [2]
-
-
12. Write a full method chain for 'ape-like fury' (Jekyll and Hyde). [3]
-
-
-
13. Why should you avoid listing many terms without analysis? [1]
-
-
14. Explain how a motif combines language and structure. [2]
-
-

4. Before you hand it in

Feature-spotting: 'There is a metaphor, alliteration and a simile.'

Pick one method and complete the chain.

Vague effects: 'It makes it more interesting.'

Name the feeling or idea created and why.

Ignoring form and structure.

Include at least one form or structure point per essay.

Wrong terminology (calling every comparison a metaphor).

If unsure of a term, describe the method in plain words.