



Comprehension QUESTION TYPES

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GENERAL PAPER

METAPHOR QUESTION

- Explain the **literal meaning** of the metaphor.
- Explain the **contextual** meaning of the metaphor in context of the passage.

IRONY/PARADOX QUESTION

- State the expectation arising from the phrase/situation in the passage.
- Explain how there is a contradiction between the expectation and the actual outcome that occurs.
- State/Give the context.

USE OF LANGUAGE [WORD/PHASE]

- Explain the word or phrase by paraphrasing key words or inferring the meaning.
- If the question is more than 1 mark, need to explain how it is used in the context of the passage.

STONE QUESTION

- Sarcasm
- Cynical
- Critical
- Condescending

ATTITUDE QUESTION

- Skeptical
- Critical
- Doubtful
- Does not agree
- Arrogant

USE OF PUNCTUATION [inverted commas / quotation marks]

- To highlight, emphasise, or because it is not used in the usual sense, contradictory.
- Context of passage and question

USE OF PUNCTUATION [dashes]

- To highlight or emphasise that particular word or phrase.
- Include context in the passage/question.

USE OF PUNCTUATION [Capitalisation]

- Used for emphasis or because they are proper names.
- For added seriousness.

USE OF PUNCTUATION [exclamation mark / question mark]

- Often used for rhetorical effect, make the reader pause and think.
- A form of exaggeration.
- A form of including his tone or attitude.

USE OF PUNCTUATION [compare / contrast]

- Show the difference or similarity.
- “While A is something, B is similar/different because something or both A and B are similar because something”.

USE OF PUNCTUATION [parentheses / brackets]

- Make an aside, or a point which is not part of the main flow of a sentence, to provide additional information.
- Context needed.

USE OF PUNCTUATION [quotations]

- If used at the beginning of the passage, it is to set the tone that the [context] is not a trivial/a grave matter.
- Depends on context.



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