

1. Question-by-Question Breakdown

Question 1 – Retrieval (5 marks)

You simply pick out facts from the text.

How to prepare:

- Skim the text
- Highlight key details
- Use short, direct answers

Example structure:

- “The writer says...”
- “The text states that...”

No analysis needed.

Question 2 – Summary of Differences (6 marks)

You compare what is different between the two texts, NOT how they're written.

What to do:

- Identify a clear difference
- Support each point with a quote
- Explain briefly

Structure:

- “Text A shows... whereas Text B shows...”
- “This suggests...”

Keep it tight and focused.

Question 3 – Language Analysis (12 marks)

You zoom in on how the writer uses language to create meaning.

What to look for:

- Adjectives
- Verbs
- Imagery
- Tone
- Emotive language
- Rhetorical devices

Structure:

- “The writer uses ___ to show...”
- “This creates the impression that...”
- “The word ___ suggests...”

Aim for 3–4 developed paragraphs.

Question 4 – Comparison of Viewpoints (10 marks)

You compare how the writers express their attitudes.

What to include:

- Viewpoint in Text A
- Viewpoint in Text B
- Methods used (tone, language, structure)
- Effects on the reader

Structure:

- “Both writers present... but in different ways.”
- “Writer A uses... whereas Writer B...”
- “This makes the reader feel...”

This is the most evaluative question.

Key Skills You Need

Summarising

- Identify the main idea

- Strip away unnecessary detail
- Use your own words

Inference

- Read between the lines
- Look for implied meaning

Language analysis

- Zoom in on individual words
- Explain connotations
- Link to writer's purpose

Comparison

- Use comparative connectives:
- whereas
- however
- on the other hand
- similarly

High-Scoring Sentence Starters

Retrieval

- "The text states that..."
- "It is clear that..."

Summary

- "A key difference is..."
- "Text A suggests... while Text B..."

Language analysis

- "The writer's use of ___ implies..."
- "This creates a sense of..."
- "The verb/adjective/noun ___ suggests..."

Comparison of viewpoints

- “Both writers express concern about...”
- “Writer A is more critical, shown through...”
- “Writer B adopts a more positive tone...”