

6d The multiple-choice section

The multiple-choice section is structured around a consistent set of interpretive lenses. Each directs attention to specific textual elements and requires analysis of their function and effect.

Character

- ✓ Choices and refusals reveal priorities and motivations
- ✓ Contradictions signal complexity; avoid oversimplification
- ✓ Change versus stasis contributes to meaning
- ✓ Function within the text: drives conflict, develops theme, serves as foil

Setting

- ✓ Physical details establish mood and atmosphere
- ✓ Environment influences or constrains character behavior
- ✓ Description must be translated into effect, not restated
- ✓ May operate symbolically or reflect internal states

Plot and structure

- ✓ Placement and sequencing shape meaning and emphasis
- ✓ Pacing controls tension and reader response
- ✓ Shifts in time or perspective signal structural intent
- ✓ Consider why a moment occurs where it does

Narrator or speaker

- ✓ Point of view determines scope of knowledge
- ✓ Tone and diction reveal attitude and bias
- ✓ Reliability may be limited or unstable
- ✓ Perspective shapes interpretation of events

Diction, imagery, and figurative language

- ✓ Reveal tone and attitude toward the subject or situation
- ✓ Shape how the reader experiences the scene or idea
- ✓ Highlight key tensions, contrasts, or themes
- ✓ Add layers of meaning beyond the literal description

Comparison

- ✓ Identifies relationships between elements in the text
- ✓ Transfers qualities to clarify or intensify meaning
- ✓ Often achieved through metaphor, simile, or juxtaposition
- ✓ Requires explanation of both the comparison and its effect

Argument

- ✓ Select the claim best supported by textual evidence
- ✓ Prioritize precision over generalization
- ✓ Eliminate answers that are unsupported, irrelevant, or overstated
- ✓ Strongest answers identify a detail and explain its function