

O Level English Language 1123

Unit 8: Comprehension Questions

Recommended Prior Knowledge

Students should have some experience in reading English texts. They should be familiar with the idea of answering questions on written texts as a means of demonstrating comprehension.

Context

This Unit should be done after Units 1, 2 and 7 and before Units 9 and 10. It can be done before or after any of Units 3, 4, 5 or 6, at the discretion of the teacher and dependent on the preference and skill of the students.

Outline

The Unit explains the difference between literal and inferential comprehension questions and teaches students to recognise their signposts and how to answer questions of each type. It teaches students how to recognise and answer questions which have to be answered in own words, with vocabulary, quotation and writer's craft questions, and questions which can be answered by lifting. It provides opportunities for group and pair discussion.

AO	Learning outcomes	Suggested Teaching activities	Learning resources
(v)	Understanding the difference between literal and inferential comprehension questions	Give a class-lesson in which you explain the difference between literal and inferential comprehension questions and how they are signposted.	<i>The Cambridge Revision Guide</i> (Glover, Rodway, Shirley and Toner) Unit Chapters, 2, 3 and 5.
(v)	To provide opportunity for group discussion	Ask the class to work in groups to discuss signposts of literal and inferential comprehension questions.	<i>English For O Level</i> (Reynolds and toner) Chapter 13
(v)	Answering literal comprehension questions	Ask the class to complete some exercises in literal comprehension questions.	<i>English For O Level</i> (Reynolds and Toner) Chapter 12
(v)	Answering inferential comprehension questions	Ask the class to complete some exercises in inferential comprehension questions	<i>English For O Level</i> (Reynolds and Toner) Chapters 12 and 13
(v)	Distinguishing between and answering literal and inferential questions	Ask the class to complete some exercises in literal and inferential comprehension questions	<i>English For O Level</i> (Reynolds and Toner) Chapter 14

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(iii) and (v)	To provide opportunity for group discussion	Ask students to work with a partner to make up their own literal and inferential questions from given texts. Ask students to work with a partner to select a short section of text and make up their own literal and inferential questions based on it.	<i>Brick Lane</i> (Monica Ali) On-line: http://www.timesofindia.indiatimes.com http://www.dawn.com http://www.independent-bangladesh.com http://creativewritingworld.britishcouncil.org/
(v)	Understanding the nature of comprehension questions which can be answered by lifting from the text	Give a class-lesson in which you explain the difference between answering by lifting and answering in own words.	<i>English For O Level</i> (Reynolds and Toner) Chapters 15 and 16
(v)	Answering questions where the answer can be lifted from the text	Ask the class to complete some exercises in comprehension questions which can be answered by lifting.	<i>English For O Level</i> (Reynolds and Toner) Chapters 15 and 16
(v)	Understanding the nature of own words comprehension questions	Give a class-lesson in which you define the nature of own words comprehension questions.	<i>The Cambridge Revision Guide</i> (Glover, Rodway, Shirley and Toner) Unit 3, Chapter 4
(v)	Answering own words comprehension questions	Ask the class to complete some exercises in own words comprehension questions. Ask the class to provide synonyms for a selection of given words.	<i>English For O Level</i> (Reynolds and Toner) Chapters 17 and 18 On-line: http://teachers.cie.org.uk , past question papers, 1123/2 http://www.lapasserelle.com
(iii)	To provide an opportunity for pair discussion	Ask students to write a list of twenty words in one column with jumbled synonyms for these words in the other column. Ask them to swap with a partner, who has to match	On-line: http://thesaurus.reference.com

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		each word up with its correct synonym.	
(v)	Answering quotation questions	Give a class-lesson in which you define quotation, and differentiate between single word, expression and consecutive words.	<i>English For O Level</i> (Reynolds and Toner) Chapter 23 On-line: http://teachers.cie.org.uk , past question papers, 1123/2
(iii)	To provide an opportunity for pair discussion	Ask students to work with a partner to produce a list of ten quotation questions from a text, covering single word answers, two or more consecutive word answers and expression answers.	On-line: http://www.timesofindia.indiatimes.com http://www.dawn.com http://www.independent-bangladesh.com
(vi)	Understanding the nature of vocabulary questions	Give a class-lesson in which you define the nature of vocabulary questions.	<i>English For O Level</i> (Reynolds and Toner) Chapter 23
(vi)	Answering vocabulary questions	Give students an opportunity to complete exercises in answering vocabulary questions.	On-line: http://thesaurus.reference.com On-line: http://teachers.cie.org.uk , past question papers, 1123/2
(iii)	To provide an opportunity for pair discussion	Ask students to work with a partner to produce a list of ten words or expressions for which synonyms are to be given by their partner.	On-line:: http://thesaurus.reference.com
(vi)	Appreciating the ways writers make use of language	Give a class-lesson on the use of simile, metaphor, and personification. Give a class-lesson on the meaning of idiom.	<i>English for O Level</i> (Reynolds and Toner) Chapter 3 <i>English Language And Literature</i> (Toner and Whittome) Chapter 3 <i>O Level English Scheme Of Work</i> , Unit 2 On-line: http://www.essdack.org
(vi)	Answering questions on writers' craft	Give students an opportunity to complete exercises in answering questions on writers' craft.	<i>English for O Level</i> (Reynolds and Toner) Chapters 21 and 22 On-line:

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(vi)	Appreciating the ways writers make use of language	Give a class-lesson on contrast, alliteration, onomatopoeia, exaggeration.	http://teachers.cie.org.uk , past question papers, 1123/2 <i>English Language And Literature</i> (Toner and Whittome) Chapter 3 On-line: http://www.quia.com