

KS4 Literary Criticism KO

Perspective – who is speaking?

1. **First person perspective:** I or we – personal, intimate, can be emotional – the narrator’s point of view
2. **Second person perspective:** You – direct, advisory or can be accusatory
3. **Third person perspective:** he/she/it/they – descriptive, detached, more objective – the narrator is outside the story

PAF

Purpose: – why has this piece been written – e.g. to entertain, advise, shock, inform, persuade?

Audience – who the piece is written for will determine the content and style, e.g. public or private? Young or old?

Form – speech, letter, article, blog, review – all different styles

Top Ten Most Useful Analytical Words:

Predatory	Vulnerable
Sinister	Lethal
Malevolent	Relentless
Grotesque	Precarious
Brutal	Nostalgic

Figurative language – creating images through language – unlocking the deeper meaning

1. **metaphor** - describing something by referring to something else
2. **simile** - describing something as similar to something else(like/as)
3. **adjectives** – describe nouns
4. **adverbs** – describe verbs
5. **participles** – past or present tense verbs
6. **vivid verbs** – interesting action words
7. **Personification** - giving human attributes to non-humans e.g. buildings, animals – brings them to life
8. **Semantic field** – a group of similarly themed words in a poem or passage
9. **Contrast** – when opposing images or ideas are juxtaposed to be more effective

Sensory methods – creating sounds, music and connotations through language

1. **Onomatopoeia** – sounds like its meaning
2. **Alliteration** – first letter of two or more words repeated
3. **Sibilance** – repetition of “s” to create a hissing sound
4. **Assonance** – repetition of vowel sounds within words
5. **Tone** – the sound or voice created by the writer

Top Eight Questions to ask yourself when analysing:

What does this **mean**? What does this **show**? What does this **suggest** to me?

What does this **reveal**? What do I **understand** more clearly now?

How do I feel? (e.g. sympathetic, frustrated, engaged, disappointed, intrigued)
Where does the **tension** build? Where does the feeling or tone **change**?