## Name:



## GCSE English Language Knowledge Organisers

If you see a word in **CAPITALS**, it means that this is a core word for **English Language** and it will be repeated on many of the KOs.

If you see an asterisk (\*), it means that you should already know this word from KS3.

1	Subject terminology	Definition	Sentence types (Q2, Q4, Q5)	Examples				
KO	(Q3, Q4, Q5) Narrative arc	This describes the <b>sequence of events</b> following a traditional structure of <b>expo</b> dilemma - falling action - resolution.	*Imperative (giving a command)	Change the way you think. Accept that there is nothing you can do.				
aper 1 F	Narrative perspective	The <b>point of view</b> from which the story is told. <b>First person narrative perspective:</b> in this point of view, a character (typically always) is telling the story. Pronouns such as 'I' and 'we' are used. <b>Third person narrative perspective:</b> in this point of view, an external narrator such as 'he', 'she', it' and 'they' are used.	*Declarative (stating information)	It is wrong to assume that everyone is as fortunate as you. There was a disconcerting quality to his smile.				
e P	Show not tell	This is when you allow the reader to experience and <b>guess</b> what is happening i words, images and action, rather than telling them directly.	*Interrogative (asking a question. They end with a question mark)  Why had I never realised this before?  Was it everything you wished for?					
Languag	Chronological/ non- chronological	Stories written in <b>chronological</b> order are stories which move forward in time, end. The events are <b>sequenced in order</b> .  Stories that are <b>non-chronological</b> don't follow the chronological order of even and go backwards, or they feature flashbacks/flash forwards. They tend to <b>jun</b>	*Exclamatory (expressing a heightened emotion. They end with an exclamation mark)	I felt outraged! I can't wait!				
sh 1	Word classes (Q2, Q4, Q5)	Definition	Example					
ngli	*Verb	A verb is a word or set of words that shows <b>actions and feelings</b> .	He <u>thought</u> of an idea. She <u>unde</u>	<u>rrstood</u> what a verb was. She <u>was</u> elated.				
Er	*Adverb	*An adverb is a <b>describing</b> word that adds more detail to a verb. They show the <b>way or manner</b> in which something is being done.	She <u>instinctively</u> understood wha	t a verb was. <u>Rapidly</u> , he thought of an idea. The dog growled <u>menacingly</u> .				
		Adverbs can show: <b>Time:</b> when something happens. <b>Place:</b> where something happens. <b>Frequency:</b> how often something happens.	Now, then, today, later, earlier, soon. Near, here, inside, somewhere. Usually, frequently, occasionally, rarely.					
WO	*Noun	*Nouns are <b>names</b> , <b>places</b> and <b>things</b> .	The <u>sunshine</u> was blinding. His <u>knowledge</u> of <u>grammar</u> was impressive. There was a <u>flash</u> of <u>hope</u> in his <u>eyes</u> .					
ly know		*Concrete nouns are nouns that you can see, hear, taste, touch or smell (i.e. they can be experienced through the senses).	Sky, medicine, thunder, chair, cake.					
ready		*Abstract nouns are ideas and concepts.	Love, justice, happiness, sadness, hope.					
al	*Pronoun	Words used <b>instead of</b> a noun i.e. 'he', 'she', 'they', 'it'.	The idea filled <u>her</u> with happiness	The basketball rolled until <u>it</u> hit the wall. <u>She</u> was surprised <u>it</u> was happening.				
t you	*Adjective	An adjective is a <b>describing</b> word that adds more detail to a noun.	His <u>impressive</u> knowledge of grammar filled him with confidence. The <u>blinding</u> sunlight meant that it was difficult to see.					
*What you	*Preposition	A preposition is a word that tells you <b>where or when</b> something is in relation to something else.	The house was <u>on</u> a hill <u>beside</u> a tree. The cat lurked <u>under</u> the bed. The money was hidden <u>under</u> the bed, <u>beside</u> the old duvet, <u>on top of</u> the shoe box.					

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-	Structural technique (Q3. Q4, Q5)
	*Exposition
	*Rising action
ו זבר	*Climax/ dilemma
ן מ	*Falling action
age 	*Resolution
lgu Bu	*Flashback
.I LaI	*Flashforward
181181	*Anaphora
	*Cyclical structure
	*Foreshadowing
	*Withholding
	information
<u> </u>	Character develop
<b>kn</b>	Cliffhanger
<b>[</b> ]	Juxtaposition
alre?	Narrowing/ widen the perspective
no/	Opening and ending
at ) 	Repetition
wu.	Shifts in tense, mo tone, focus, narrati
<u> </u>	perspective

Definition The **beginning** of the text where elements of plot, character, setting and/ or atmosphere are established. A type of image when **one thing is compared to another thing** to help the reader to \*Metaphor understand an aspect of the original thing more clearly e.g. "The mesmerising circus The action building up to the climax. We start to **learn more** about the characters and relationships in the story. was a magnet for the children. There will be an incident (or incidents) that create suspense, or interest, or some kind of conflict. The most **intense**, **important** point of the story where the tension has built to its highest point. For example, it In this example, the circus (this is called the 'tenor') is compared to a magnet (this is called the 'vehicle') to help the reader to understand an aspect of the circus more might be a confrontation, or a moment where someone realises how they feel about someone/ something, or clearly (understanding the link between the tenor and the vehicle is called the when a secret is revealed. 'ground'). The action that happens as a result of the climax. For example, this might be where the characters guess/ A type of image where a **human quality** is attached to a thing or idea e.g. "The car \*Personification speculate/ worry about what will happen to them next. complained as the key was roughly twisted in the lock." The **end** of a text where events are resolved. Loose ends are tied up and we see what the characters' lives are going A type of image that writers use to compare one thing with another, using 'like' or \*Simile to look like now that the story is over. 'as' e.g. "The horse's wild mane was like a blaze of fire." TIF: when writing, you can open sentences with similes e.g. "Like the flames of a wild A flashback is a reference (or scene) to something that takes place before a story begins. Flashbacks interrupt the chronological order of the main story and they take the reader back in time to past events in a character's life. fire, the heat gained in intensity." A flashforward is a reference (or scene) to the **future** (it could be an imagined idea of the future, or what actually The use of vivid language to evoke a sensory experience or create a picture with \*Imagery words for a reader. Writers often use the different senses to describe something happens in the future). It is much more direct than foreshadowing, which is where a writer tends to drop hints such as seeing, hearing and touching - in order to help the reader experience what is and clues rather than telling the future directly. being described e.g. "The earthy, unmistakable aroma of coffee weaved through the air." When a writer repeats a word or phrase at the beginning of successive sentences, phrases, or clauses e.g. "We A thing that **represents or stands for something else** – usually, this is an object that \*Symbol/ came, we saw, we conquered." represents a much deeper idea, emotion or feeling e.g. the colour white can symbolise symbolism When the end of the text **repeats or references** an idea/ character/ setting from the **opening**. peace; a star might symbolise hope e.g. Dickens uses the light shining from the Ghost of Christmas Past to symbolise Scrooge's memory. By trying to extinguish the light, he is tries to TIF: when writing, you can start and end with the same line of dialogue; you can also mirror your first and final extinguish painful memories. paragraphs. Where the author gives the reader warnings, hints or signs about the future. It suggests what is to come through A type of personification where **emotions** are given to a **setting**, a **natural object or** \*Pathetic fallacy **the weather** e.g. "The clouds overhead crowded together suspiciously as the sky frowned imagery, language, and/or symbolism. It does not directly give away the outcome, but rather, suggests it. forebodingly." Where a writer conceals information in order to raise questions from the reader and therefore build both A group of words that are very **similar in meaning**. Semantic fields are often used by \*Semantic field suspense and tension. This can be achieved by making the reader know what the character does, making the writers to keep or reinforce a certain image/feeling/impression in the reader's mind reader know more than the character does or making the character know more than the reader does. e.g. The writer includes a semantic field of pain and torture: "A man who had been soaked in water, and smothered in mud, and lamed by stones, and cut by flints, and stung by When the writer presents a character **differently** as the text progresses. ment nettles, and torn by briars." When the end of the text is strangely or dramatically abrupt, so that the main character/s is left in a difficult A word, especially an adverb or adjective, that is used to **add emphasis** to another Intensifier situation, without offering any resolution of their conflict or situation. adjective, verb, or adverb e.g. very, incredibly, really, strangely, unbelievably; "He was too dispirited to continue"; "The card was extremely sentimental." When the writer places two ideas together for contrasting effect. When a writer includes **several words/ phrases/ ideas**, one after the other e.g. "A Listing When the writer switches from a broader overview (e.g. describing a crowd) to a more specific point of view (e.g. squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous, old sinner!" an individual). An object, image, symbol or idea that is **repeated** throughout a literary work. Motifs Motif The **first mood/image** of the text, where an atmosphere or idea or character is established. help to explain bigger ideas or themes e.g. In 'Macbeth', sleep is used as a motif to show The **final mood/image** of the text. the downfall of the tragic hero and his wife: "Macbeth shall sleep no more!" etc. When a word/ phrase is **obviously repeated** throughout a paragraph/ whole text. When a word/ phrase is **obviously repeated** throughout a sentence/ paragraph/ Repetition whole text e.g. <u>One</u> child, <u>one</u> teacher, <u>one</u> pen and <u>one</u> book can change the world. When the writer alters the time frame/ the overall feeling of the text/ the topic/ the narrator. od/ A technique in which animalistic characteristics are given to non-animal objects, Zoomorphism ive humans, and events e.g. She snarled at the unwelcome visitors.

Sentence variation	Definition	Example			
(Q5)					
*Begin with a <b>verb</b>	A sentence that begins with the action ( <i>verb</i> , <i>person sentence</i> ).	Reading through the book, he became engrossed in the story.  Crying, she opened the envelope.			
*Begin with an adverb (of manner)	A sentence that begins with the description of the action.	<u>Quietly</u> , she crept away. TIF: <u>Swiftly yet stealthily</u> , he roamed the city streets.			
*Begin with an emotion	A sentence that begins by describing the emotion of the subject.	<u>Furious</u> , he slammed the door and vowed never to return.  TIF: <u>Determined</u> , <u>frustrated</u> and <u>exhausted</u> , the runner crossed the finish line.			
*Begin with a preposition	A sentence that begins by stating where something is.	On the horizon, the sky darkened and a storm began to brew.			
*Begin with an adverb of time, place or frequency.	A sentence that begins by stating when, where or how often something has happened.	Now, there was nothing to do but wait in terrified silence.  Outside, the wind whistled.  Usually, she was tired when she woke up in the morning, but not today.			
Use hyphens	Use hyphens to add extra information in the middle of a sentence.	She took a tentative step further in <u>- then two or three steps -</u> expecting to feel woodwork against the tips of her fingers.			
Use a <b>semi-colon</b>	Use a semi colon to add more detail to a description.	His sleep had been disturbed; his eyes burned and his body ached.			
Use a <b>colon</b>	Use a colon to introduce a list (tell: show sentence).	The beach was a hive of activity: parents wrestling with umbrellas, children squealing delightedly and crabs dodging the clatter of human feet.  It was a sleepy town: shops were shuttered, cats lazed in the shade and the air was drowsy.			
Use <b>repetition</b>	Use the same sentence opening to repeat a series of sentences or paragraphs.	Alfred had grown <u>almost used</u> to such sights. <u>Almost used</u> to seeing the remains of men he had sometimes shared mugs of teawith. <u>Almost used</u> to them being suddenly torn apart and scattered around here and there or falling like rain into the mud.			
Use listing	Use listing to describe a series of actions or thoughts or feelings.	She immediately <u>stepped</u> into the wardrobe and <u>nestled</u> herself among the coats, <u>rubbing</u> her face against them, <u>breathing</u> in the musty scent and <u>believing</u> herself to be utterly safe.			

4	(Q3, Q4, Q5)		Language Definition techniques (O3, O4, O5)		Example		
	*Persuasion The action or process of persuading someone, or of being		of being persuaded to do or believe something.	*Alliteration	When a writer uses a series of words that begin with the <b>same letter or sound</b> . Alliteration is often used to emphasise a	We want a <u>better, brighter</u> future for all children.	
X	*Line of argument	The <b>reasons</b> that a writer gives to support a partic	ular idea or view.		particular phrase or idea.		
r 2	*Persona	A persona is a <b>role/ character/ voice</b> that you adop the topic of mental health, you might take on the	ot when you are writing e.g. if you were writing about persona of a doctor.	*Direct address	When a writer uses a <b>pronoun or name for the person they are speaking to</b> , in order to gain their attention or make them feel personally involved.	You are the key to this entire idea succeeding - we will be with you all the way. I can't thank you enough!	
aper	*Perspective/	A particular attitude, opinion or way of looking a	at an issue.			Thousands of <u>innocent</u> animals are at risk because of our <u>selfishness, ignorance</u> and <u>disregard</u> for kindness.	
	viewpoint			*Facts	Something that can be proven to be <b>true</b> .	Global warming <u>is</u> happening.	
ge ]	*Tone	The writer's <b>attitude or feelings</b> about a subject o outraged, impassioned, sarcastic, disgusted, regretful,	r issue. For example, a writer might feel distressed, fearful, amused, defeatist, sympathetic, admiring or awed.	*Opinions	A <b>personal viewpoint</b> (often presented as if it is a fact).	In my view, this is the best thing to have ever happened.	
age				*Rhetorical	When a writer asks a question to <b>produce an effect</b> or to <b>make the reader/ audience think</b> . It does not require a reply.	Who doesn't want to achieve success in their life?	
ng	Word classes (Q3, Q4, Q5)	Definition	Example	question *Statistics	A fact that is supported by <b>numerical data</b> (you can make these up, as long as they are sensible).	80% of people agreed that this would change their community for the better.	
Lan	*Verb	A verb is a word or set of words that shows actions and feelings.	He <u>thought</u> of an idea. She <u>understood</u> what a verb was.	*Anecdote	A <b>short dramatic, interesting or amusing story</b> about a real incident or person.	In March 2020, the coronavirus pandemic became front page news and my life changed forever when	
sh		*An adverb is a <b>describing</b> word that adds more detail to a verb. They show the <b>way or</b>	She <u>instinctively</u> understood what a verb was. <u>Rapidly</u> , he thought of an idea.	*Hyperbole When a writer uses deliberately exaggerated language.	When a writer uses <b>deliberately exaggerated</b> language.	I am <u>drowning</u> in the amount of homework I need to do. The deadlines are <u>killing me!</u>	
ıgli		manner in which something is being done.	indian, he mought of an incu.	*Repetition	When a word/ phrase is obviously repeated throughout a sentence/ paragraph/ whole text.	No animal deserves to be mistreated. No animal should ever suffer. No animal must ever become a victim of human cruelty.	
En		Adverbs can show: Time: when something happens.  Now, then, today, later, earlier, soon.		*Allusion	A reference to something else, such as a historical event, a person, a place or another text.	As <u>David Attenborough</u> once said	
		<b>Place:</b> <i>where</i> something happens. <b>Frequency:</b> <i>how</i> often something happens.	Near, here, inside, somewhere. Usually, frequently, occasionally, rarely.	*Imperative	A sentence that is used to issue a <b>command or instruction</b> , make a <b>request</b> , or offer <b>advice</b> .	Remember this moment.	
	*Noun	ouns are <b>names</b> , <b>places</b> and <b>things</b> .  The <u>sunshine</u> was blinding. His <u>knowledge</u> of <u>grammar</u> was impressive.		*Inclusive pronouns	When a writer uses inclusive pronouns such as <i>we</i> and <i>us</i> to establish a <b>common bond</b> and persuade the reader/ audience to share the same opinions.	I know that <u>we</u> all feel the same about this issue.	
W		*Concrete nouns are nouns that you can see, hear, taste, touch or smell (i.e. they can be experienced through the senses).  Sky, medicine, thunder, chair, cake.		*Modal verbs	These are auxiliary verbs (also called helping verbs) like <i>can</i> , will, could, shall, must, would, might, and should. Modal verbs can make something sound more <b>forceful</b> , <b>urgent or likely to happen</b> .	We <u>must</u> act now and then change <u>will</u> happen.	
know		*Abstract nouns are ideas and concepts.	Love, justice, happiness, sadness, hope.	*Rule of three	The use of <b>three words</b> , <b>phrases or sentences one after the other</b> to describe something in a memorable way.	<u>Homes</u> have been lost; <u>jobs</u> shed; <u>businesses</u> shattered.	
eady	*Pronoun	Words used <b>instead of</b> a noun i.e. 'he', 'she', 'they', 'it'.	The idea filled <u>her</u> with happiness. The basketball rolled until <u>it</u> hit the wall.	Eye-witness/ expert quotation	Direct speech from a person who witnessed an event/ who has an in-depth understanding of the topic.	The reality is that it is becoming harder to recruit nurses. The British Nursing Association said this situation is "hugely concerning" and a stark example of "extreme workforce pressure".	
alr	*Adjective	An adjective is a <b>describing</b> word that adds more detail to a noun.  His <u>impressive</u> knowledge of grammar filled him with confidence.  The <u>blinding</u> sunlight meant that it was difficult to		Flattery	When a writer <b>deliberately compliments</b> the reader/audience.	The very fact that you are reading this article suggests that you are a compassionate and understanding individual who cares about the freedom of all people.	
t you		see.		Irony/ sarcasm	When the <b>literal meaning and the intended meaning are the opposite</b> , typically for humorous or emphatic effect.	There is nothing I enjoy more than being trolled on Twitter by people who have absolutely no understanding of the situation.	
*What	*Preposition	A preposition is a word that tells you <b>where or when</b> something is in relation to something else.  The house was <u>on</u> a hill <u>beside</u> a tree.  The cat lurked <u>under</u> the bed.		*Metaphorical language	Writers also use techniques such as imagery, metaphor, motifs, personification, semantic fields, similes and symbolism when they are writing persuasively.		

5	Sentence openings (Q5)	Definition	Example		Structural features (Q5)	Definition		What should you include?	
e Paper 2 KO		A sentence that begins with the action.  A sentence that begins with the description of the action.	stories about peo	newspapers, I am amazed by the amount of ple living in poverty in our country.  sed that I had to say something about this	*Introduction	An effective introduction will <b>grab the reader's/ aud attention, clarify your point of view</b> and <b>establish</b> y		- Make it very clear what you think about the topic - Address the question Open with a language technique e.g. direct address, a rhetorical question or an attention-grabbing statistic.	
	*Begin with a preposition	A sentence that begins by describing the emotion of the subject. A sentence that begins by stating where something is.	Determined, I vowed that I would make it my mission to protect animals' rights.  All around me, I see students who are struggling to cope with the stresses of homework and assessments.		*Main paragraph: personal (micro) perspective	In your first main paragraph, you should write from perspective i.e. you can write about the topic has pe affected you or someone you know. This can make yory trustworthy, convincing and emotive.	rsonally	You could begin with sentence openers such as  - Personally, I believe that  - In my experience  - Last year, I discovered  - On a micro level, it is important to consider the impact on the	
	adverb of <b>time</b> ,	A sentence that begins by stating when, where or how often something has happened.	Now, we are faced with an uncertain future.  In other communities in the world, people are taking action.  Often, I wonder whether prejudice will ever disappear.		*Main paragraph: wider, community (meso) perspective  i.e. you can write about he affected people in your school, town, city or gener		v the topic has	individual' You could begin with sentence openers such as Within my community In my local area, I have seen how	
na	Structural techniques (Q5)	Definition		Example		This shows that you understand how the topic affect than you, and makes your writing even more convir	s people other	- All kinds of people where I live have experienced	
h Languag	*Discourse markers/ connectives	A word or phrase that is used to organise ideas, either in a paragstart of a paragraph. They are lishowing the reader/ audience tyour thinking.	graph or at the ke a signpost,	However Although Nevertheless Firstly On the other hand To conclude.	*Main paragraph: societal (macro) perspective	broader perspective i.e. you can write about how this topic has affected people throughout the whole of society, or nationally, or globally. This shows that you have a very deep understanding od the topic, and makes your writing completely convincing.		You could begin with sentence openers such as  - As a society, we  - In our country, we have seen how  - On an international level, this issue has	
English	*Effective opening	The fist paragraph, which is wr the reader's/ audience's attenti techniques that stand out and n listen (e.g. rhetorical question o statistic).	<b>on</b> with nake people	Can you imagine a world where everyone is equal?	*Conclusion			- Remind the reader/ listener of what you think about the topic Finish with a language technique e.g. anaphora, an imperative or the rule of three Use a cyclical structure to link back to your effective introduction.	
	*Topic sentence	A sentence that identifies the <b>m</b> paragraph.	ain idea of the	The facts about women and employment are clear.	Useful phrases (Q5)		I		
know	*Counter argument	What someone who disagrees was might say in response to your ideas/argument. When you cor counter argument to your opinithat you have an answer to any criticisms. This ultimately make argument more persuasive.	nsider the ion, you show objections or	Admittedly, it has been argued that global warming is just a myth – but of course, such claims are completely absurd. It has been proven that	Many people think that Like me, you must agree that As a community, we should aim to As a concerned member of the community/ parent/adult / consumer / citizen People like us often think		Imagine i Usually Consider	der the impact of ine if  lly dering	
dy kr	*Short sentences	A simple sentence, which often communicates clearly and is earnemembered.		This is about our human rights.	We know from experi It is widely accepted t	hat	Arguabl Clearly		
ılready	*Anaphora	When a writer repeats a word o beginning of successive sentence clauses.		"We came, we saw, we conquered."	Whilst I appreciate that you cannotI still think Although I agree thatI also think  I would implore you to consider The impact of this would be This resulted in This led to Not only will thisit will also			imately st importantly ndamentally conclusion nificantly	
you a	*Cyclical structure	When the end of the text repeat references an idea/ example/ s the opening.		Can you imagine a world where everyone is equal? – Can we now imagine a world where we're all equal?					
*What	One sentence paragraph	When one line of text is used or text, normally for emphasis.	n its own in a	Dear sisters and brothers, now it's time to speak up.			In conclu		

GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE general inference phrases for reading questions

This shows.../ showing...

This illustrates.../ illustrating...

This implies...

This conveys...

This displays...

This portrays...

This demonstrates...

This highlights...

This indicates...

This evokes...

This suggests...

This emphasises...

This reinforces...

This exaggerates...

This exemplifies...

This illuminates...

This signifies...

This presents...

This depicts...

This provides...

TIF:

This repetition of ... reinforces...

The writer exaggerates this idea by...

It is clear that...

It becomes apparent that...

It is evident that...

The image suggests...

This words has connotations of.../ The connotations of...suggest...

The references to...suggest...

This could imply that...

Perhaps...

The writer could be suggesting that...

The writer alludes to...

This idea confirms...

He considers...

This echoes...

This mirrors...

This establishes an atmosphere of...

He forewarns us that...

She examines...

The writer juxtaposes...

The reader perceives...

He exposes...

The writer subverts the idea that...

The writer simultaneously suggests that...

The writer explicitly states that...

(More) implicitly, the writer could be suggesting that...

Metaphorically, it could be suggested that...

Symbolically, this could imply that...

The cumulative effect of...

The writer prepares us for...

On another level...