

## Exploring the types of questions

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To help you do well in your exams it is always worth studying how the questions are phrased and seeing what sort of information the examiners are looking for in the various sections of the exam papers.

1. Look at the questions below which are all from Section A of Paper 1 of the AQA spec A English exam. When they were published in the exam they had accompanying texts to look at but for now we are just interested in the style of the questions:

Name two people who express opinions in the article.

What are the main points the writer makes about the link between teenagers' use of mobile phones and smoking.

How are facts and opinions used in the article?

Explain how the designer of this article aims to persuade by using: pictures; layout.

How do the writers of these items use language to inform and persuade? Write about particular words and phrases.

The article describes different methods used to tempt people to buy unhealthy food. Choose the two methods which you think would be most effective and explain the reasons for each of your choices.

In your own words, explain the writer's argument about advertising directed at children.

What methods do McVitie's use on this wrapper to sell Jaffa Cake Mini Rolls? You might write about: the words; presentational devices; the use of fact and opinion.

Compare the two items. Compare: the different attitudes to food; the purpose of each item; the effectiveness of each item.

Choose two points from the writing in this advertisement which might make people want to go on this cruise. Explain why you chose them.

In your own words, explain the difficulties Shackleton and his crew had to face and the ways they coped with them.

What are the similarities and differences in the ways the Antarctic is shown in the two items?

These are two media items. How does each item try to interest the reader by use of: presentational devices; language which describes; language which persuades; opinions?

Write down three things you could help to provide by sponsoring a child.

Explain in your own words: the problems caused by not having enough water in your daily diet; how to avoid the problems.

How does each writer use language to inform and persuade the reader?

How would the presentation of the item encourage someone to sponsor a child? Write about: the way the leaflet is set out; the use of colour; the way the pictures are used; the effect of the different print sizes and fonts.

2. With a partner, go through the questions and identify words and phrases which repeatedly appear in the questions.
3. Make a list of the type of questions that come up.
4. Find a newspaper, magazine, website article or an advertisement of some kind (or a selection) and try to write your own four questions for each, using these as a guide for style and content.