AQA
Realising potential

GCSE English Literature Focus on:

'Extract to whole' questions

Build on your students' assessment performance using our self-guided, modular training pack

Activities booklet

Contents

Contents	Page
Activity 1: Introduction to ‘extract to whole’ questions	4
Activity 2: Examples of the extract as a ‘springboard’	6
Activity 3: Introduction to ‘extract to whole’ questions (reflection)	9
Activity 4: References rather than quotations	10
Activity 5: An ‘ideas-led’ approach in action	12
Activity 6: The chronological approach	13
Activity 7: The noticing approach	15
Activity 8: Further sample student responses	18
Post-session reflection	23

AQA Education (AQA) is a registered charity (number 1073334) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 3644723). Our registered address is AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.

Activity 1: Introduction to ‘extract to whole’ questions

Think about your own experience teaching students to answer the ‘extract to whole’ questions and respond to the following:

What approaches do you currently encourage students to use in relation to the extract questions?	
How can the extract be useful to students?	

AQA Education (AQA) is a registered charity (number 1073334) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 3644723). Our registered address is AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.

What problems have you encountered when teaching the ‘extract to whole’ questions?	
Do you teach the whole text or teach through extracts?	
How do your students usually perform when responding to ‘extract to whole’ questions?	

AQA Education (AQA) is a registered charity (number 1073334) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 3644723). Our registered address is AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.

Activity 2: Examples of the extract as a ‘springboard’

Please turn to page 5 of the *Handouts booklet*. In light of the information about structuring the ‘extract to whole’ responses, consider how the extract and the whole text has been addressed in each student response.

How has the extract been considered in each response?	Response 1	
	Response 2	

How has the whole text been considered in each response?	Response 1	
	Response 2	

Any further comments or observations?	Response 1	
	Response 2	

Activity 3: Introduction to ‘extract to whole’ questions (reflection)

Bearing in mind what has been discussed so far, consider the following questions.

Have your ideas about the ‘extract to whole’ questions changed at all? Has the way you may approach this task when teaching a literature text altered or been corroborated?
Has any of the information so far been new or surprising?

AQA Education (AQA) is a registered charity (number 1073334) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 3644723). Our registered address is AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.

Activity 4: References rather than quotations

Please turn to page 13 of the *Handouts booklet.* In light of the information on teaching the term ‘references rather than quotations’, read and discuss the two responses.

Rank the responses	First	
	Second	
How have textual references from the extract and the text as a whole been used in the response?	Response 3	
	Response 4	

What would you advise each student to do in order to improve their mark?	Response 3	
	Response 4	

Activity 5: An ideas-led approach in action

In light of the information about an ideas-led approach, read the responses beginning on page 18 of the *Handouts booklet* to gain further understanding of how a focus on the question can help students. Each response is annotated so it's possible to see where the examiner awarded marks.

Make key notes on each before exploring the commentaries provided to you in the *Handouts booklet*.

Response 5

Response 6

AQA Education (AQA) is a registered charity (number 1073334) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 3644723). Our registered address is AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.

Activity 6: The chronological approach

Using the question and extract on page 29 of the *Handouts booklet*, consider the following:

Identify the 'big idea' in the question.	
What is happening in the extract and where is it placed in the whole text?	
Select key moments from before the extract that link to the big idea in the question, and briefly explain how they link.	

AQA Education (AQA) is a registered charity (number 1073334) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 3644723). Our registered address is AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.

Select references from the extract that show how the big idea in the question has progressed, changed or strengthened over time. Briefly explain the links.	
Select key references from after the extract that link to the big idea in the question. Briefly explain how they link to what has come before, and how they demonstrate the presentation of the writer's ideas.	
Summarise how the writer of the text has used structure to demonstrate this idea.	

AQA Education (AQA) is a registered charity (number 1073334) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 3644723). Our registered address is AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.

Activity 7: The noticing approach

Using the question and extract on page 30 of the *Handouts booklet*, consider the following.

Identify the ‘big idea’ in the question.	
What’s happening in the extract and who’s directly or indirectly involved?	
What do you notice about how the big idea is presented in the extract?	

AQA Education (AQA) is a registered charity (number 1073334) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 3644723). Our registered address is AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.

How does this fit in or contrast with the rest of the text? Why is it the same? Why is it different?	
Do we need to consider any contextual information here?	

AQA Education (AQA) is a registered charity (number 1073334) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 3644723). Our registered address is AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.

What key references would exemplify these differences or similarities?	
How do these add to, change or reinforce the ‘big idea’?	

Activity 8: Further sample student responses

This final activity asks you to read and discuss four further student responses to questions from GCSE English Literature, Paper 1 exams. These student responses begin on page 31 of your *Handouts booklet*.

Consider these questions (answer space is provided on the following pages) as you examine the student responses.

- How has each student chosen to approach their response to the task?
- What use have they made of the extract?
- How do they engage with the wider text?
- What could you take from these responses to inform your own teaching?

Examiner commentaries with the level/mark awarded are provided in the back of your *Handouts booklet,* beginning on page 50 (student responses 7–10). These should be looked at **after** completing the activity.

AQA Education (AQA) is a registered charity (number 1073334) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 3644723). Our registered address is AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.

Student response 7

How has each student chosen to approach their response to the task?	
What use have they made of the extract?	
How do they engage with the wider text?	
What could you take from these responses to inform your own teaching?	

AQA Education (AQA) is a registered charity (number 1073334) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 3644723). Our registered address is AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.

Student response 8

How has each student chosen to approach their response to the task?	
What use have they made of the extract?	
How do they engage with the wider text?	
What could you take from these responses to inform your own teaching?	

AQA Education (AQA) is a registered charity (number 1073334) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 3644723). Our registered address is AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.

Student response 9

How has each student chosen to approach their response to the task?	
What use have they made of the extract?	
How do they engage with the wider text?	
What could you take from these responses to inform your own teaching?	

Student response 10

How has each student chosen to approach their response to the task?	
What use have they made of the extract?	
How do they engage with the wider text?	
What could you take from these responses to inform your own teaching?	

AQA Education (AQA) is a registered charity (number 1073334) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 3644723). Our registered address is AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.

Post-session reflection

Reflecting on what you've covered during the course of this training session, evaluate the comments you made beforehand and whether anything has changed.

Grade the area of development statements according to your confidence where 0 is not confident at all and 5 is very confident.

Discuss your growth and areas for further development with other colleagues.

Area of development	Grading 0-5	Reasons/notes
I'm confident about how to prepare students for 'extract to whole' questions.		
I'm confident that I can teach with a detailed focus on ways that students can tackle 'extract to whole' questions.		
I understand how students are assessed for their responses to 'extract to whole' questions, and what will be most helpful for them to learn and understand.		
I know what I need to do to help improve students' ability to respond appropriately to 'extract to whole' questions.		
My pledge for moving forward is…		

AQA Education (AQA) is a registered charity (number 1073334) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 3644723). Our registered address is AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.

Notes

Contact us

T: 0161 953 7504
E: english-gcse@aqa.org.uk

aqa.org.uk

AQA Education (AQA) is a registered charity (number 1073334) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 3644723). Our registered address is AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.