



NOTICING SKILLS

A checklist for things to notice about Language and Structure

Language	Structure
Word choices: comment on vocab you find powerful /unusual/ interesting	Sentence types (simple, compound, complex) and lengths (short, long)
Figurative language (simile, metaphor, personification). Imagery/symbolism	Use of punctuation for effect e.g. question marks, ellipses, exclamations, pauses
Word classes: nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs	Connectives – to show contrast or to build on one idea
Facts and statistics versus opinions	Shifts in attitudes/viewpoints/topics
Rhetorical devices: sets of 3, Imperatives/commands, rhetorical questions	Shifts at the beginning/middle/end of the text
Tone that the words chosen create: formality/informality/ humour/anger/sarcasm	'Zooming in': moving from the general to the particular. 'Zooming out' – moving from one example to the bigger picture
Use of anecdotes to illustrate/emphasise a point	Repetition of words, phrases, ideas across the extract