

6.7 Details, diction, and syntax reveal perspective

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 12 marks

Objective

Build the skills to read **syntax and omission** 句法与省略.

You must be able to:

- state what tone influences
- state what syntactical arrangement can do
- state what included and omitted information conveys
- explain why omission is evidence

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ Tone's influence

The narrator's or speaker's tone toward events or characters influences readers' interpretation of the ideas associated with those things.

■ Syntax

The syntactical arrangement of phrases and clauses in a sentence can emphasise details or ideas and convey a narrator's or speaker's tone. Where a clause sits changes what it weighs.

■ Inclusion and omission

Information included and/or not included in a text conveys the perspective of characters, narrators, and/or speakers. Both halves.

■ Why omission

A narrator's perspective may influence the details and amount of detail in a text and may reveal biases, motivations, or understandings. What a narrator passes over quickly is as informative as what they dwell on.

2 Practice

2.1 State what syntactical arrangement can do. [2]

2.2 State what included and omitted information conveys. [2]

2.3 Omission is evidence.

(a) Explain why. [2]

(b) State what tone influences. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Where a clause sits in a sentence changes [1]

- **A** what it weighs
- **B** the page number
- **C** the genre
- **D** the spelling

3.2 A narrator's perspective may influence the details and the [1]

- **A** amount of detail
- **B** book's price
- **C** typeface
- **D** binding

3.3 A narrator gives two pages to a dinner and one line to a death.

(a) State what this reveals. [1]

(b) Explain how a reader uses the proportion.

[2]

4 Go further

- work through the **6.7 Details, diction, and syntax reveal perspective** lesson on the **Learn** page;
- read the **Longer Fiction or Drama II** section of the AP English Literature handout on the **Know** page.

Solutions

2.1 emphasise details or ideas and convey a narrator's or speaker's tone.

2.2 the perspective of characters, narrators or speakers, through both what is included and what is not.

2.3 (a) a narrator's perspective influences the amount of detail, so what is passed over quickly reveals bias, motivation or understanding. (b) readers' interpretation of the ideas associated with the events or characters.

3.1 A. what it weighs.

3.2 A. the amount of detail.

3.3 (a) the narrator's priorities, or an unwillingness to dwell on the death. (b) proportion is a choice, so the reader treats the imbalance as evidence about the narrator rather than about the events.