



## **Passage & SAQ**

- There are 4 main components that we focus on: **Passage Analysis, Short Answer Questions (SAQ), Summary, and AQ.**

**Passage Analysis:** When you are reading, you must make annotations to ensure you are constantly analysing the passage because it is often easy to be on autopilot mode when you read but your mind is distracted. Annotation helps anchor your mind. How to annotate? Simple. All you have to do is to condense each paragraph you read into a few words that you write at the side. This ensures that you have fully comprehended the passage and can express it in your own words. At this step, if you find yourself struggling it just means you had difficulties digesting the passage's message. Looking out for diction and connectors here can really help you infer the author's point.

Secondly, the most important thing is to leverage on the passage's structure. Broadly speaking, there are three categories from macro to micro: A) Overall theme and argument, B) Individual Paragraph's Message, C) Within individual paragraphs.

- Understanding A) helps you grasp the author's main ideas. When you know the big picture, every SAQ would make sense to you. Pay attention to what his message focus is and what his stand is
- Next, for B) you can further to first deconstruct the passage into paragraphs; know that every paragraph has a unique purpose →
  - **Issue Introduction** (often has personal voice)
  - **Justification/Pinpoint Problem** (why the author has decided to discuss this particular problem)
  - **Modern Contextualisation** (why the issue is relevant today)
  - **Impact** of issue stated
  - **Proposed Solution** (how we can change our mindset)
- For C), as mentioned, pay attention to vocabulary and connectors. Also remember that the paragraph is similar to the PEEL format found in essays. Knowing that makes the paragraph a lot clearer

**SAQ:** Four types of questions →

- 1) **Literal** = can be found in the passage just have to paraphrase
- 2) **Inferential** = answer not found, but look for clues in the passage (understanding author's main ideas greatly facilitates this)
- 3) **Language** know the different literary devices and punctuation)
- 4) **Author's** questions either relating to tone or attitude