



Locating general and specific information



General

Specific

Headings and subheadings

- Use headings to help locate where to find the answers.

Word choices

- Underline the key words in the question.
- Look in the text for words that have the same or a similar meaning.

Detailed information

- Look for detailed information such as dates, places, numbers and names.

Let's look closer!

Greg: What should we plant in the cat café?

Anson: We should check with a vet before we decide. Some plants are toxic to cats. They could get seriously ill if they ate them.

Evan: Greg, can you go and ask the vet? I think we can plant some flowers in pots that hang from the ceiling. We can install some pots high up on the wall as well. This way, the kittens won't be able to eat them.

DSE 2021 Part B1 Q40 Multiple choice

e.g. Which of the following is NOT mentioned by Evan?

- A. helping to put up the plants
- B. agreeing with Anson
- C. giving Greg a task
- D. suggesting locations for the plants

Evan has offered suggestions on where to put the plants, but he has not helped to put the plants up.

- A
- B
- C
- D

Recently, some snack manufacturers have seen a decline in sales, as consumers opt for healthier alternatives. So, can they win you back? Let's try saying the following out loud:

- potato crisps
- chocolate bars
- ice cream

The writer first asks readers whether they would switch back to eating snacks. Then these examples are given to check their feelings towards them.

If you are put off by any of these, it could indicate that you have a negative opinion towards junk food. When hosting a party, you might lean towards homemade, wholesome refreshments.

DSE 2018 Part A Q11 Short answer

e.g. Based on the information in the text, give THREE examples of ready-to-eat snacks.
potato crisps, chocolate bars, ice cream

Let's practise!

'Hey loser,' Rory says. 'Give me all of your lunch money.'

Rory and Jerry have known each other since Primary 1, and Rory has been bullying him all these years on a daily basis. Now, on the first day of Secondary 1, Jerry has to face his biggest enemy yet again. This time, though, he is going to fight back.

Jerry takes a deep breath, straightens his back and looks Rory in the eye. 'I'm not giving you anything. I've had enough,' he tells the bully. Rory's eyes widen in surprise, but it is soon replaced by anger. He raises a fist and sends it towards Jerry. Jerry just stands there. He is still thinking about whether to fight his bully. At that moment, a woman's voice says, 'Rory, hold it right there. What do you think you are doing?'

DSE 2023 Part B1 Q29 Short answer and Multiple choice

1 How often has Rory harassed Jerry?

2 What does Rory want from Jerry?

3 Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the text?

- A. Jerry and Rory have known each other for about six years.
 B. Jerry decides to give in to Rory's demand.
 C. Rory has not expected Jerry to fight back.
 D. Someone is trying to stop Rory from hitting Jerry.

A B C D

Exam Booster

Smartphones have made communication faster and more convenient. People are delighted that they can complete most of their tasks on their phones. What we did not foresee was how addictive they have become. The ability to have such a convenient tool at your fingertips means that some people are constantly browsing and posting on their social media accounts.

DSE 2022 Part A Q17 Extended response

1 With reference to the text, state TWO benefits that smartphones have brought to people.

(i) _____

(ii) _____

2 According to the text, what has having 'such a convenient tool on hand' led smartphone users to do?
