

Analysing Word Choice

8th Grade

The question behind every 'analyse the language' task.

Analysis is not spotting a device. It is explaining the effect of a specific choice.

PICK ONE WORD

1

Not a whole sentence. One deliberate, loaded choice.

SAY WHAT IT MEANS AND SUGGESTS

2

Denotation is the dictionary meaning; connotation is what it implies.

SWAP IT MENTALLY

3

'Strode' versus 'walked'. What is lost?

EXPLAIN THE EFFECT

4

What does the reader now feel or believe?

WORKED

'The crowd swarmed' — swarmed suggests insects: mindless, threatening, many.
'The crowd walked' loses all of that.

The mark is for the effect on the reader, not for naming the technique.