

LOC FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS

Comparison

Who, or what ideas are being compared?
How are they being compared?
Is part or all of the comparison figurative or literal
Is it through a paragraph/segment/section/division/book?

Contrast

Who, or what ideas are being contrasted?
How are they being contrasted?
Is part or all of the contrast figurative or literal?
Is it through a paragraph/segment/section/division/book?

Repetition

What ideas/themes/topics are being repeated?
Is it repeated within the same context?
How many times is it repeated?
Is it through a paragraph/segment/section/division/book?

Continuity

What ideas/themes/topics are being repeated?
What is the progression between the repetition?
What is the context of each?
How many times is it repeated?

Principality

What's being emphasised and what's being de-emphasised?
What's the ratio?
Is it through a paragraph/segment/section/division/book?

Cruciality

What is the turning point?
How does it relate to the content on either side of the turning point?
Is it through a paragraph/segment/section/division/book?

Climax

What is the climax?
Were there min climaxes leading to the main one?
How does what came before create the climax?
Is it through a paragraph/segment/section/division/book?

Interrogation

Who is asking the questions?
Is there a progression in the questions being asked?
Does the author answer the questions?
Who are they directed to?
What point is he proving?

Interchange

What ideas/themes/topics/types of literature are being interchanged?
Is it through a paragraph/segment/section/division/book?
Do the topics add on one another or contrast each other?

Intercalation

What is the interruption?
Is the interruption mentioned in the text later?
What surrounds the interruption
Does the interruption contrast or add to the surrounding text?
Is the interruption another type of literature?

Inclusion

What is the frame, how does each side relate?
What is being framed? Is there a storyline or repetition within it?
How does the content of the frame relate?
Is it through a paragraph/segment/section/division/book?

Radiation

What idea/theme/person is being radiated?
Where in the text does it radiate to and in what context?

Harmony

What ideas/theme/person is the centre?
What is the context each time?
Is there another LOC involved?

General to Specific/Specific to General

What is the general topic?
In what way is the general term made specific?
Does the author explain how the specific terms relate back to the general?
Is it through a paragraph/segment/section/division/book?

Problem to Solution

What is the problem?
Who created the problem/how was it created?
What is the solution?
Who gave the solution, how is it given?
Is it through a paragraph/segment/section/division/book?

Theology to Application

What theology is contained?
How does the application relate back to the theology?
What topics/themes are covered in both?
Is it through a paragraph/segment/section/division/book?

Cycles

What points make up the cycle?
How many times is it repeated?
Does any cycle deviate from the original (something added or taken away)?
Is it through a paragraph/segment/section/division/book?

Chiasm

What is contained within the chiasm? What's the centre?
Do the parts relate to one another?
Is it through a paragraph/segment/section/division/book?
Does the author show his train of thought through the chiasm?

Prophet Cheat Sheet

Type of Oracles

Lawsuit Oracle: God is portrayed a judge against Israel

Summons: The call to appear on trial

Charge: The accusation

Evidence: The proof

Verdict: The judgement sentence

Woe Oracle: The word the Israelites carried out when facing disaster or death

Announcement of distress: Woe!

Reason for distress: Answers the “Why” for the “Woe” - usually a list of sins.

Prediction of doom: The disaster - judgement that is coming upon them.

Promise Oracle: Word of hope and promise - God’s blessings to come

Future referred to: “In that day....”, “At that time...”

Radical change announced: A Complete turnaround from the present situation.

Mention of blessing: Promise of restoration, future hope and blessings. Blessings are often spoken in terms of: peace, prosperity, health, life, abundance, respect, safety.

Observing Oracles

LAWSUIT ORACLE	WOE ORACLE	PROMISE ORACLE
Summons: Who is it against? Charge: Evidence: Verdict: How fulfilled? When fulfilled? Include Verse References	Announcement of distress: Who is it against? Reason for distress: Prediction of doom: How fulfilled? When fulfilled? Include Verse References	Future referred to: ... Radical change: Promise/Blessing: When fulfilled? - Physical or Messianic? Evidence? Include Verse References

Figures of Speech

Simile - A direct comparison of two things that are essentially different. Characterised by use of: like, as and so

Metaphor - an indirect comparison of two things. Asserts that one thing is another. Substitution of the name of one thing for another. Like a simile but the connectives of like, as and so are left out.

Allegory - An extended metaphor that has the form of a story.

Analogy - A rather full comparison showing several points of similarity between unlike things.

Irony - Implies something different, even the opposite of what is stated. Used for the effect of humour or sarcasm.

Personification. - The attribution of life or human qualities to inanimate objects.

Hyperbole. - Exaggeration, not with the inter to deceive but to emphasise and intensify an impression.

Rhetorical Questions - These are questions posed for which the author doesn’t expect an answer.

Litotes - The use of understatement. It is the opposite of hyperbole and is often used as irony.

Metonymy - The Substitution of one term for another.

Synecdoche - Part of something is mentioned but the whole is meant.

Euphemism - The substitution of a mild, indirect or vague expression for a harsh, blunt one. Euphemisms are used to indirectly discuss such topics as bodily functions, anatomy or unpleasant topics.

Anthropomorphism - The practice of describing God in human terms as if he has hands, feet, a face, etc.

Types - A type prefigures something or someone to come. A prefiguring symbols such as an Old Testament event prefiguring an event in the New Testament: The Passover foreshadows Christ’s sacrificial death (1 Cor 5:7). It is best to have the type explicitly mentioned in the New Testament.

Symbols - Something that stands for another meaning in addition to its ordinary meaning.

Prophet Cheat Sheet

Interpreting the Prophets

Consider the historical situation

- Date?
- Original Audience? (Th OR and OH might be different)
- What is the political situation: Israel, Judah, surrounding nations?
- What is the religious situation: Israel, Judah, surrounding nations?
- Which kings are reigning at this time in: Israel, Judah, surrounding nations?
- Who are the other prophets contemporary to this time?
- What specific situation is the prophet addressing?
- What is the particular purpose of this prophetic writing?

Consider the literary form

- Poetry (Hebrew Parallelism)
- Oracles - See page 12
- Enacted Symbols
- Figurative Language
- Historical Narrative
- Laments
- Apocalyptic
- Symbols
- Typology
- Allegories

Figurative Language

- Prophetic literature, like other biblical poetry, is rich in figurative language. Understanding the figurative language the prophets use is imperative for good interpretation.

Look at the context

- Consider both the Historical & Literary contexts before interpreting a passage or verse.

Look at the main idea

- Don't squeeze every detail for meaning, keep an eye on the big picture.
- If you need help staying big picture, reference your horizontal.

The New Testament interpret the Old Testament

- Look for NT Quotes of OT passages.
- What does the NT say about this passage?
- How does the NT interpret it?
- What does the NT give as the fulfilment?

Prophecy Fulfilment Guidelines

1. Biblical fulfilment always wins
2. Assume single fulfilment
3. Prefer the nearest historical fulfilment
4. Spiritual fulfilment will be mentioned in the NT
5. Consider if the prophecy is conditional
6. There are still eschatological prophecies yet to be fulfilled.

Types of Hebrew Parallelism

Synonymous Parallelism: The second line repeats the idea found in the first line; two or more lines express the same idea with similar wording.

Antithetic Parallelism: the second line expresses a contrast to the first line; the thought of the first line is made clearer by a contrast expressed in the second line.

Synthetic Parallelism: 'the second line completes or expands the thought, with each succeeding line adding to the previous.

Emblematic Parallelism: The first line contains a literal statement, followed by a figurative expression adding to the first statement; makes use of similes and metaphors.

Climactic Parallelism: Merges synonymous and synthetic parallelism - there is both repetition and development of a thought.

Chiastic Parallelism: Parallel lines contain similar thoughts in a pattern form - A B B A / A B C C C B A/ etc.