



Atom's Education Experts

Steps to Build Confidence in Comprehension!

Do you want to become an expert in reading between the lines? Be able to answer 'who, what, where, why' questions with your eyes closed? Then you've come to the right place! Here are Atom's top tips to help you to feel confident with comprehension!

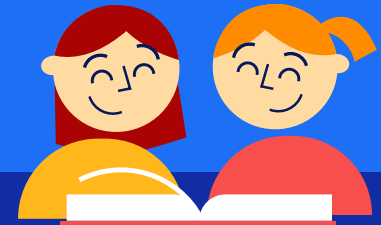
1



Read every day.

Reading is the easiest (and most enjoyable!) way to build your vocabulary and comprehension skills. To improve your confidence further, summarise passages or chapters to a parent or sibling. Not sure of a word's meaning? Try to deduce the meaning of unfamiliar words by looking at the context of the sentence! If you're still unsure, use a dictionary to find a word's meaning. Click [here](#) for Atom's reading list.

2



Read with a parent.

Want to become really confident with explaining what you are reading, and make reading even more fun? Reading with your parent or guardian and discussing the passage afterwards is a great way to do this! Here are some example questions to kickstart your discussion:

Can you come up with another word for 'X'?

How do you think the main character feels at the end of the passage?

How might this story be different if it was told from a different point of view?

What do you think is going to happen next and why?

3

Build your general knowledge.

Studies show that strong general knowledge helps with understanding new and difficult texts. Visiting museums and subscribing to a young person's newspaper are two great ways to build your general knowledge.

4

Understand different comprehension command words.

Understanding words frequently used in comprehension questions will ensure you can confidently understand any question in your exam. These words include:

a. Compare

b. Contrast

c. Explain Fully

d. Summarise

e. Define

f. Convey

g. Purpose

TOP TIP: If you aren't sure what these words mean, use a dictionary to look them up!



5

Practise Comprehension Questions on Atom.

Use Custom Practice activities and Live Lessons to improve your comprehension skills.

TOP TIP: Try your work on your own before asking for help - remember to use the videos and help sheets on Atom Nucleus if you get stuck!

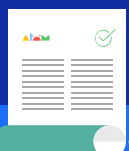


6

Write down strategies to help you in your exam.

Exam techniques will be different depending on the exam you are taking. For example, if you are sitting a paper-based exam, it will be useful to underline command words in the questions. This means you can go into your exam feeling calm.

TOP TIP: Use Atom's mock tests to practise answering comprehension questions in exam conditions and to the time limit allowed in the exam.



7

Practise writing PEE paragraphs.

A great way to structure your answers is to start with your POINT, a quick answer to the question. Then, provide EVIDENCE to support your point, such as a quotation. Finally, EXPLAIN how this evidence answers the question.

Point

Evidence

Explain