

the detail that carries the argument

What a Flamingo prose question tests

- a class 12 prose question expects a sharper link between detail and argument than a summary would give
- character or narrator questions want the person built from specific moments, not general impressions
- a piece built from real events is still read for its argument, not just its facts
- irony and contrast carry real weight in this set of chapters, watch for what a writer sets side by side

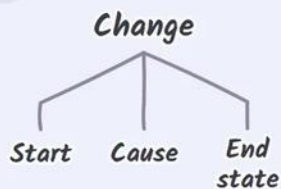
Reading a Flamingo chapter for the answer

- note where the writer contrasts two things directly, that contrast usually holds the argument
- a change in a narrator's own understanding across the piece is often the real subject
- underline any moment the writer states their own reaction, it often signals the piece's stance
- the final paragraph usually closes the argument, read it as carefully as the opening

Chapter	Writer	Built to teach
The Last Lesson	Alphonse Daudet	how a small classroom scene carries a larger loss
Lost Spring	Anees Jung	how repeated detail builds an argument about poverty
Deep Water	William Douglas	fear and its overcoming, traced step by step
The Rattrap	Selma Lagerlof	an idea used across a story to argue about human nature
Indigo	Louis Fischer	how a historical account still argues a moral position
Poets and Pancakes	Asokamitran	humour and irony used to sketch a whole workplace
The Interview	Christopher Silvester	two sides of one practice, set against each other
Going Places	A. R. Barton	daydream and reality held apart until the close

Narrator's change vs writer's argument

Narrator's change



a root box labelled Change branching down to three labelled children: Start, Cause, End state

- find the state the narrator begins in
- find the moment or cause that shifts it
- name what they understand differently by the end

Writer's argument



three stops in order along a dashed path: Sets up, Builds contrast, States position, the shape a Flamingo prose argument usually follows

- identify the two things being set side by side
- trace how the contrast is built across the piece
- state the position the contrast argues for

most Flamingo prose questions ask for one of these two things, work out which before writing