Explicit and Implicit

Examples of implications
ideas that are carried between the lines

1. What is being implied by this sentence?

*Informal discussions and sharing of ideas between staff (teachers and teaching assistants) were useful but insufficient to promote consistency of approach and better progression.*

**Answer**
There is value in informal discussions but these needed to take place more often if they are to help to properly maintain consistency of approach and progression among the pupils.

2. What is being implied in this sentence?

*In primary schools, some teachers lack the specialist knowledge needed to teach PE well and outcomes for pupils are not as good as they could be.*

**Answer**
Specialist subject knowledge is needed to teach PE effectively in primary schools and improve the outcomes for the pupils.

3. What is being implied in this paragraph?

*Although the survey uncovered areas of good practice, the quality of transition between Key Stages 2 and 3 in English was too often no better than satisfactory. The lack of regular communication and exchange of ideas between primary and secondary schools created problems for continuity in teaching and assessment.*

**Answers** (Each of these are closely related in meaning and ‘correct’)

- Because of the variation across the country of the quality of transition arrangements between key stages 2 and 3 many pupils do not always get a good deal on transfer.
- Better arrangements should be made between secondary schools and their feeder primaries in order to facilitate continuity.
- It would be a good idea if primary and secondary schools liaised more closely.
- The progress of the pupils would be better if there was better communication and information exchange between primary and secondary schools.
Exercises

What is being implied by these statements

*From a report on geography teaching*

1. Fieldwork encouraged a higher than average take-up of examination courses at a time when examination entries for geography were falling nationally.

2. Developing a deeper understanding of people and places, and of the need to live in balance with an increasingly fragile environment, is more important than ever in today’s world.

*From a report on PE teaching*

3. Nevertheless, the report confirms there is more good and outstanding PE than at the time of the last Ofsted PE survey in 2008. Sustained government investment has enabled schools to make significant improvements in PE and school sport.

4. More able pupils do not have enough time to practise and achieve their very best. Only a minority of schools play competitive sport to a very high level.
Contradictions

Explicit

• If something is explicit it is in the text - there is evidence that you can point to - it can be a fact or an opinion, but it is there in black and white.

For example: the text says "George did not like dogs and had never owned one."

The reader is perfectly clear about George's position on dogs.

If the statement in the question says "George was fond of dogs." then this would go against what was explicitly stated in the text and have to be EC.

Implicit

• If something is implied (or implicit) it is being suggested by the text.

For example: the text says "George moved away from the dog, he'd never owned one."

This doesn't say the words that George didn't like dogs, but it is the feeling that you get when you read it.

If the statement in the question said "George was fond of dogs." then this would go against what was implied or suggested by the text and have to be IC.