Reactions:

\[
\text{allyl chloride} \quad \xrightarrow{\text{KCN / ethanol}} \quad \text{CN}
\]

\[
\text{benzyl chloride} \quad \xrightarrow{\text{KCN / ethanol}} \quad \text{CN}
\]

In both of these instances the substitution reactions ($S_N 2$) occur with ease due to the overlap stabilization of the intermediate by the $\pi$-electrons of the nearby $sp^2$-hybridized carbon atoms.