Explanation Experts: A Quiz with Max and Pip

Learning objective: To identify and understand the features of an explanation text in line with Class 4 English requirements.

Read the questions carefully. Max the monkey is looking for the best structure, and Pip the caterpillar wants to make sure you know your technical vocabulary. Good luck!

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.True, 3.False, 4.Diagram, 5.C, 6.True, 7.Subheadings, 8.B, 9.False, 10.Present tense.

Word bank: Chronological · Diagram · Subheadings · Causal conjunctions · Present tense · Technical vocabulary

1. 1. What is the main purpose of an explanation text? A) To tell a story, B) To persuade someone, C) To explain how or why something happens*, D) To describe a character. (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Explanation texts usually follow a logical order, often using chronological order. (1 mark)

3. 3. True or False: You should always use past tense when writing an explanation text. (1 mark)

4. 4. What do we call a labelled drawing that helps the reader understand how something works? (1 mark)

5. 5. Which of these is a causal conjunction? A) After, B) Suddenly, C) Therefore*, D) Quickly. (1 mark)

6. 6. True or False: Using subheadings helps the reader find specific information quickly. (1 mark)

7. 7. What feature helps break the text into clear sections with titles? (1 mark)

8. 8. Why is technical vocabulary used in explanation texts? A) To make it sound difficult, B) To provide accurate information*, C) To make it look longer, D) To confuse the reader. (1 mark)

9. 9. True or False: An explanation text should never include an introduction. (1 mark)

10. 10. Which tense is most commonly used in explanation texts to describe general facts? (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a labelled diagram of how a toaster works. Remember to include arrows and technical labels for the parts, just like in an explanation text!

Extension challenge: Choose an object in your classroom (like a pencil sharpener or a clock) and write three sentences explaining how it works using at least one causal conjunction like 'because', 'so', or 'consequently'.