

How Does It Work? An Explanation Text Planner

Learning objective: To structure an explanation text using causal conjunctions and technical vocabulary to describe a process.

Choose a process you understand well, such as how a plant grows, how a volcano erupts, or how to make a sandwich. Use this template to organise your explanation. Remember to use a title, an opening statement, numbered steps, and a concluding sentence. Use words like 'because', 'therefore', and 'consequently' to explain why things happen.

Word bank: consequently · furthermore · as a result · subsequently · process · mechanism · therefore · firstly · finally

1. Title and Introduction: Write a clear title and an opening sentence that explains what process you are describing. Why is this topic interesting? (2 marks)

2. Step 1: The Beginning: Describe the first stage of the process. Use a temporal adverb (like 'First' or 'Initially') to start your sentence. (2 marks)

3. Step 2: The Middle: Describe the next stage. Explain how one action causes the next using a causal conjunction. (3 marks)

4. Step 3: The Final Stage: Describe how the process finishes. What is the final result? (2 marks)

5. Conclusion: Summarise why this process is important or what happens after the process is complete. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Ask your friend Max the monkey to check your work! Can you add two more technical words related to your topic and define them in a 'Glossary' box at the bottom of your page?