

Max's Magnificent Mechanics: Explanation Text Quiz

Learning objective: To identify and understand the features, purpose, and language of an explanation text.

Max the monkey is busy building a new machine! Help him check his notes by answering these 10 questions about how explanation texts work. Read each question carefully.

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

Word bank: Chronological · Diagram · Heading · Technical vocabulary · Present tense · Conjunctions · Sub-heading

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 works*, D) To describe a character. (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Explanation texts are usually written in chronological order. (1 mark)

3. 3. True or False: You should use lots of emotive language and personal opinions in an explanation text. (1 mark)

4. 4. What is the term for words specific to the subject being explained (e.g., 'gears', 'lever', 'friction')? (1 mark)

5. 5. Which of these helps the reader understand the text by showing a visual representation? A) A poem, B) A diagram*, C) A biography, D) A recipe. (1 mark)

6. 6. Are explanation texts usually written in the past tense or the present tense? (1 mark)

7. 7. True or False: Sub-headings are used to break the text into smaller, clearer sections. (1 mark)

8. 8. Which of these is a causal conjunction often used in explanations? A) Because*, B) Quickly, C) Brightly, D) Suddenly. (1 mark)

9. 9. What do you call the title at the very top of the page that tells us what is being explained? (1 mark)

10. 10. Why do we use numbered lists in an explanation? A) To make it look pretty, B) To show the sequence of steps*, C) To count the words, D) To confuse the reader. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a diagram of a simple machine (like a pulley or a toaster) and add labels to explain how it works, just like a real scientist!



Extension challenge: Choose an everyday object in your house, such as a kettle or a light switch. Write three sentences explaining how it works using the present tense and one causal conjunction (like 'therefore' or 'consequently').