

Year 4 English Assessment: The Art of Instructions

Learning objective: To understand, identify, and write effective instructional texts using imperative verbs, temporal conjunctions, and adverbials of time.

Read the text carefully and answer the questions below. Ensure your responses are clear, accurate, and use appropriate terminology.

How to Build a Stargazing Shelter with Nova

Before you begin, gather four sturdy branches, a large waterproof tarpaulin, and some strong twine. First, find a flat, grassy area away from bright streetlights. Carefully lean the branches together to form a triangular frame. Once the frame is stable, drape the tarpaulin over the top, ensuring it covers the sides completely. Finally, secure the edges with heavy stones to prevent the wind from blowing your shelter away. Now, you are ready to observe the night sky with Nova!

Word bank: Imperative · Chronological · Adverbial · Conjunction · Step-by-step · Clarity · Sequence

1. Identify two imperative verbs used in the first sentence of the instructions. (2 marks)

2. Why is it important for instructional texts to follow a chronological order? Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

3. Find and copy an adverbial of time from the passage that helps the reader understand when to perform an action. (1 mark)

4. What might happen if the author had forgotten to include the instruction about the 'heavy stones'? Justify your answer. (3 marks)

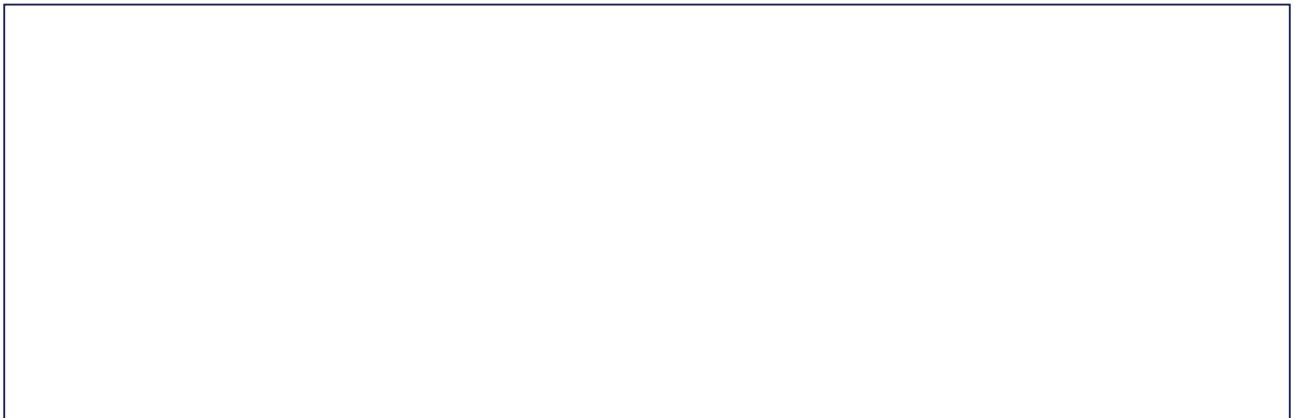
5. Compare and contrast the use of a numbered list versus a bulleted list in instructions. Which is better for this specific task and why? (4 marks)

6. Rewrite the sentence 'Carefully lean the branches together' to include more precise descriptive vocabulary for a reader who is struggling to build the frame. (3 marks)

7. Write a short set of instructions (4-5 steps) on how to prepare for a library visit with Pip the caterpillar. You must include at least two imperative verbs and two temporal conjunctions. (5 marks)

8. Suggest one way the author could make these instructions more accessible for someone who has never built a shelter before. Explain the benefit of your suggestion. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a clear, labelled diagram of Nova's stargazing shelter. Include arrows pointing to the materials mentioned in the text to show how they fit together.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Evaluate why 'clarity' is considered the most vital feature of instructional writing. If you were teaching a younger student, which part of the text would you simplify and how would you change it?