

Mastering Explanation Texts with Pip the Bookworm

Learning objective: To identify and understand the structural and linguistic features of explanation texts according to Year 5 English requirements.

Read the front of each flashcard to test your knowledge about explanation texts. Flip the card mentally (or check the answer provided) to see if you are correct. Pip the Bookworm uses these features to explain how the world works!

What is the primary purpose of an explanation text? To explain how or why something happens in a clear, logical way.	Which tense is most commonly used in explanation texts? Present tense (e.g., 'The water evaporates').
Give three examples of causal conjunctions used to show cause and effect. Because, therefore, consequently, as a result, so.	Why are subheadings used in an explanation text? To organise information into clear sections and help the reader find specific facts easily.
What is 'technical vocabulary' and why is it used? Subject-specific words (like 'evaporation' or 'gears') used to make the explanation precise and accurate.	What is the role of a diagram in an explanation text? To provide a visual aid that helps the reader understand complex processes or parts of a system.
True or False: Explanation texts are usually written in chronological order. True. They often follow the sequence of a process from start to finish.	What does 'passive voice' mean in an explanation text? Focusing on the object or the process rather than the person doing the action (e.g., 'The lever is pushed' instead of 'I push the lever').
What is an 'introductory paragraph' in an explanation text? A short paragraph that clearly states what the text will explain and captures the reader's interest.	Why might an explanation text include a glossary? To define difficult or technical terms for the reader.
What is the difference between an explanation text and a narrative? An explanation text provides factual information about processes, whereas a narrative tells a story with characters and a plot.	Which character, Pip or Nova, would be most likely to write an explanation text about how stars are formed? Nova, because she is the owl who loves stargazing and asking science questions!