

Mastering the Mechanism: Writing an Explanation Text with Kit the Fox

Learning objective: To structure an explanation text using causal connectives, technical vocabulary, and logical sequencing to describe how a process functions.

Follow this scaffold to explain how a mechanical invention works. Use Kit the Fox's logical approach: break the process into clear steps, use precise verbs, and ensure your reader understands the 'why' behind each action.

To understand how the clockwork automated garden-waterer functions, one must first observe the initial movement of the primary gear.

Word bank: consequently · furthermore · subsequently · as a result · due to this · mechanism · process · initially · therefore · triggered by

1. Introduction: State the purpose of the machine and briefly identify what it achieves. Start with: 'The purpose of this invention is to...' or 'Designed to solve the problem of...' (2 marks)

2. Technical Requirements: List the necessary components or conditions needed for the process to start. Start with: 'Before the process begins, it is essential that...' (2 marks)

3. Step-by-Step Sequence: Describe the mechanical chain reaction. Start with: 'Initially, the [component] engages with... causing the [component] to...' (3 marks)

4. Causal Explanation: Explain why the process continues. Use a connective to explain the cause and effect. Start with: 'Once the energy is transferred, the mechanism... consequently...' (3 marks)

5. Conclusion: Summarise the final outcome of the process. Start with: 'In conclusion, the system operates efficiently because...' (2 marks)

6. Critical Thinking: Explain why the order of these steps is vital for the machine to function correctly. What might happen if step two occurred before step one? (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine Kit the Fox has discovered a flaw in your invention. Write a short paragraph justifying why your current design is the most efficient solution, comparing it to a manual alternative. Use at least two pieces of persuasive, technical language.