

Year 5 English Assessment: The Art of Instruction

Learning objective: To demonstrate the ability to identify, analyse, and compose clear, logical, and effective instructional texts using imperative verbs and cohesive devices.

Read the provided text carefully and answer all questions. Ensure your explanations are concise and use accurate grammatical terminology.

How to Build a Stargazing Den with Nova the Owl: 1. Gather four sturdy chairs and two thick blankets. 2. Position the chairs in a square formation. 3. Carefully drape the blankets over the top to create a roof. 4. Secure the edges with heavy books so they do not slip. 5. Finally, crawl inside with your torch to observe the constellations.

Word bank: Imperative · Chronological · Cohesive devices · Subheadings · Fronted adverbials · Modal verbs · Bullet points

1. Identify two imperative verbs used in the passage. Explain why imperative verbs are essential in instructional writing. (2 marks)

2. The text uses a chronological structure. Why is this organisational feature vital for a set of instructions? (2 marks)

3. Find and copy a fronted adverbial from the passage. How does this help the reader understand the sequence of the task? (2 marks)

4. Compare and contrast the use of bullet points versus numbered lists. When might you choose to use one over the other? (3 marks)

5. Explain why the author has used the modal verb 'might' or 'should' (e.g., 'You should ensure the roof is tight'). How does this change the tone of the instructions? (3 marks)

6. Justify why 'clarity' and 'conciseness' are the most important qualities when writing instructions for a complex task. (5 marks)

7. Write a short paragraph (4-6 sentences) explaining how to make a cup of hot chocolate for a friend. You must include at least one fronted adverbial and three imperative verbs. (8 marks)

Draw: Draw a diagram of Nova the Owl's stargazing den, labelling the different materials used to show how the structure remains stable.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are writing instructions for a time-traveller visiting the 21st century. What might happen if your instructions were ambiguous? Write a short reflection on the consequences of poor communication in technical manuals. Total: /25