

Max's Magnificent Mechanics: Explanation Text Quiz

Learning objective: To identify the key features, language, and structural elements of an explanation text.

Max the monkey is busy building a new contraption! Help him check his notes by answering these 10 questions about explanation texts. Read each question carefully before choosing your answer.

Answer Key: 1. A (Present tense); 2. True; 3. C (To explain how or why something happens); 4. Technical vocabulary; 5. False (They are usually written in chronological or logical order); 6. B (Because, therefore, consequently); 7. True; 8. Heading; 9. D (To provide a visual aid for the reader); 10. True.

Word bank: Chronological · Causal conjunctions · Present tense · Diagram · Technical vocabulary · Passive voice · Heading

1. 1. Which tense is most commonly used in explanation texts? A) Present tense*, B) Past tense, C) Future tense, D) Past perfect. (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Explanation texts often use subheadings to organise information into clear sections. (1 mark)

3. 3. What is the primary purpose of an explanation text? A) To tell a story, B) To give instructions, C) To explain how or why something works*, D) To persuade the reader. (1 mark)

4. 4. What is the term for words specific to a subject, such as 'gears', 'friction', or 'gravity'? (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: Explanation texts are always written in alphabetical order. (1 mark)

6. 6. Which of these are examples of causal conjunctions? A) First, next, finally, B) Because, therefore, consequently*, C) Although, however, yet, D) Slowly, quickly, happily. (1 mark)

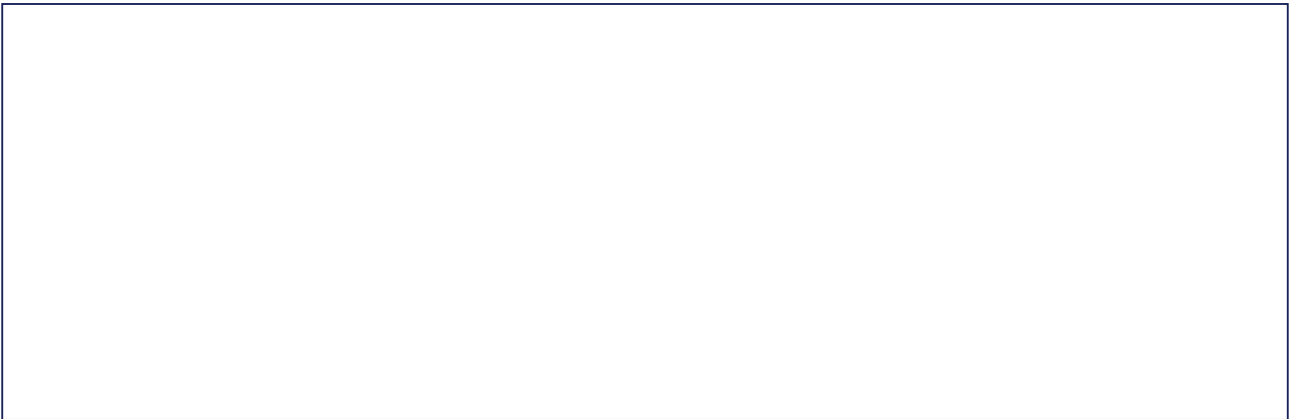
7. 7. True or False: Passive voice is often used in formal explanation texts to focus on the process rather than the person doing it. (1 mark)

8. 8. What do we call the title at the top of a page that tells the reader what the text is about? (1 mark)

9. 9. Why is a diagram often included in an explanation text? A) To make the page look pretty, B) To save space, C) To show the author's art skills, D) To provide a visual aid for the reader*. (1 mark)

10. 10. True or False: An explanation text can include a glossary to define tricky technical terms. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a diagram of a simple machine, like a pulley or a lever, and add labels using arrows to explain how the parts work together.



Extension challenge: Choose an everyday object (like a toaster or a bicycle) and write three sentences explaining how it works using at least two causal conjunctions.