

GENRE

Purpose

What are you hoping to achieve

Subject Matter

What things, people, events, ideas and feelings are important?

Mode of Communication

Spoken, Written, print, electronic, sound stage, screen, etc...

Social Context

What is the social situation in which the language is being used?

Roles and Relationships

Who and what is the audience?

Genre		Possible contexts		Purpose	Language Features
Narrative	English	Stories, Fables, Myth, Fairytales		To entertain	Characters, descriptive language, dialogue, past tense
	History	Historical Biography			
Recounts	English	Newspaper Account, letters, journals, Diary		To retell events	Participants, linking words associated with time(eg. later, after), past tense, action verbs
	Maths	How I solved the problem			
	HPE	Record of exercise and diet			
Procedures	English	Instruction manual		To direct actions	Detailed and factual, linking words to do with time (eg. after, when), tense is timeless
	Maths	How to find the area of a shape			
	Art	How to use glazes in pottery			
	H.Ec	A Recipe			
Expositions	Reports	SOSE	A report on deserts	To classify and describe	Generalised participants, impersonal and objective language, timeless present tense, specific vocabulary
		Science	A report on life-cycles		
		Man Arts	A report on types of building materials		
	Explanations	SOSE	Explain how soil erosion occurs	To explain phenomena	Generalised non-human participants, cause and effect relationships, some passives (eg. ...is driven by...), Timeless present tense (eg. soil is deposited...)
		HPE	Explain digestion		
		Science	Explain how rain forms		
	Analytical Expositions	English	Does television promote crime?	To argue or persuade	Generalised participants, passives to help text structure, linking words associated with reasoning (eg. therefore...) Nominalisation – actions become things (eg. to pollute becomes pollution)
		Science	Electricity and magnetism are closely related.		
		SOSE	Do you think corporal punishment is appropriate?		
Transactions	BCT	A letter to request information about a product		To negotiate relationships	Personal or business-like negotiations, present tense.
	Man Arts	A request for a quote for materials			
	English	Invitation to a Party			