

Year 6 Recognising Formal and Informal Writing – Guidance for Parents

Activity:

The aim of this activity is for children to practise recognising formal and informal writing. There are three questions to complete. The first two questions allow children to practise the skill, while the third question extends them as they have to apply their learning to get the answer.

Vocabulary:

Formal writing such as formal letters, information texts and newspaper articles have a common layout structure to follow. For example: Newspaper articles are set out in columns with headlines; formal letters include the address at the top; information texts include sub-headings. Each formal style has language appropriate to the subject and may include factual language, sophisticated vocabulary, jargon and a formal tone.

Informal writing may use a more relaxed style which may include colloquial language, slang and contractions for example: can't instead of can not.

Genre refers to different types of writing such as: a biography, a newspaper report or a persuasive argument. Each have their own specific features, structure, style and layout.

Other resources:

If your child enjoyed this activity and wants to try more activities linked to this learning, you can sign up for £4.83 per month on classroomsecrets.co.uk/membership.

Check out our daily timetable for Year 6 home learning activities on [<u>kids.classroomsecrets.co.uk</u>](https://kids.classroomsecrets.co.uk) >> Home Learning Timetable.

Recognising Formal and Informal Writing

1. headteacher

2. Various answers, for example:

Text A is a diary which is used to record private thoughts, feelings and personal experiences. As such, it is written in a casual, jovial manner and includes informal language, for example: mega, numpty, shoving etc.

Text B is a factual report, possibly written for the police or insurance company. As such, it contains paragraphs, specific facts and formal language, for example: approximately, approached, witnessed etc.

3. James is incorrect as his sentence has an informal tone. He has used contracted words like 'you've' and 'wasn't'. He has also used informal language such as 'mate', 'bust' and 'loo'.