

ENGLISH · Y3–Y6

Writing Types & Purposes

Knowledge Organiser — Y3–Y6

The six main non-fiction types

1

Persuasion

Tries to change the reader's mind. One-sided; uses rhetorical questions, rule of three, evidence, and counter-argument.

Example: Argue for/against: should we have homework?

2

Explanation

Explains HOW or WHY something works. Uses present tense, causal language (because, therefore, as a result).

Example: How does the water cycle work?

3

Recount

Retells past events in order. Personal (diary, letter) or factual (newspaper report, biography).

Example: Write about a school trip; retell a historical event

4

Instruction

Tells the reader how to do something. Numbered steps, imperative verbs, time connectives (first, then, finally).

Example: Recipe, science method, how to play a game

5

Non-chronological report

Gives information about a topic — NOT in time order. Sections with subheadings, present tense, formal vocabulary.

Example: A report on sharks / the Romans / the rainforest



6

Discussion

Presents BOTH sides of an argument, then gives a balanced conclusion. Uses connectives: however, on the other hand, in contrast.

Example: Should school uniforms be compulsory?

Connectives by writing type

Copy one from each colour

- PERSUASION: Firstly / Furthermore / Without doubt / It is clear that / Many people believe / Consider this:
- EXPLANATION: This happens because / As a result of / Consequently / This causes / Due to / This leads to
- RECOUNT: Later that day / Meanwhile / The following morning / Eventually / After this / Looking back
- INSTRUCTION: First / Next / Then / After that / Finally / When this is done
- REPORT: One key feature / In addition / A further example / There are several / Research shows / Scientists have found
- DISCUSSION: On one hand / However / In contrast / Others argue / Nevertheless / Having considered both sides

