



IB1

Writing Text Type Booklet

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The senior management of your school would like to know how technology is being used to help learning in each class. You have been asked to provide information about your English B class. Write a text in which you describe the different ways that technology is currently used in this class, and explain whether or not each technique is popular, and also to what extent it is benefiting learning.

Use of technology in English B classes.

The instructions for this report were to investigate how much technology was used in class, and for what purposes; and also, to interview some students to find out what they think about the use of technology in studying English B. The teachers were also interviewed, in order to find out their thinking about using technology, or not.

The use of technology

There are six English B groups for Diploma HL and SL: three in the first year and three in the second year. These groups are taught by three English B teachers, and each takes one group in each year.

The three teachers have different approaches to using technology - simply put, one uses technology all the time, another sometimes, and another very rarely.

- 'All the time' - In these classes, all students have their laptops on throughout the lesson, in order to (i) receive materials from the teacher; (ii) carry out online research; and (iii) write and submit tasks set by the teacher. It is most usual for students to work on their own, or in small groups - there is little time for whole-group discussions. However, the teacher also uses laptop to project material for the whole group to see, or to show videos.
- 'sometimes' - In these classes, students are told whether they should turn on their laptops at the beginning of the lesson, and this depends on the work that is to be done. Much of the work in class involves direct conversations between the students and the teacher, but this is often supported by 'head-down' time (as they call it), either researching on the internet or writing e.g. preparing speeches to be given to the rest of the group.
- 'Very rarely' - In these classes, students normally only use laptops outside the classroom.

Opinions about technology

Work in class mainly involves "oral practice", as the teacher calls it, which means that the teacher talks about various subjects, the students listen and take hand-written notes, and then there is discussion in small groups.

Four students were interviewed in each group, and each teacher was interviewed separately. The interviews with the students showed that, in fact, they were each fairly happy with the approach to technology in their classes. Those in the 'all the time' groups said that they liked the way that using technology provided them with a lot of interesting material, and allowed them to work at their own pace, in their own way. Those in the 'sometimes' groups liked the changes between the real-life discussions, and the quieter 'head-down' research. Those in the 'very rarely' groups liked the way that the teacher talked to them very personally about interesting things, asking them their opinions - and one person said that it was good to practice handwriting because "the final exams are like that"

In their interviews, each teacher said that they were happy with the approach they used. The one who uses technology the most said that she really enjoyed exploring with the students all the interesting techniques you could use. The teacher who uses technology the least said that he felt that the language is best learned through face-to-face real conversation, not through a keyboard. Finally, the one who uses technology 'sometimes' said that she didn't have strong opinions for or against but just used technology when she thought that it helped the students to do a particular task, such as research.

Conclusion

Overall, it seems that technology is used in English B in different ways, and that students appreciate such different approaches. The question must be whether one or other approach is actually better in teaching English - but finding out about that was not part of this report.

Audience + Purpose

- The basic context will be explained in the question - and you will then have to invent the details of the report, expanding on the basic background provided.
- The audience will be specified in the question (i.e. the specific person or group of people who have asked for the report)
- The fundamental purpose is to provide an objective, reliable account of some situation or event - methodically, clearly and efficiently. Personal and subjective reactions would not be considered appropriate.

Register + Tone

- Will generally adopt a formal register.
- Will have a tone which aims to be impersonally authoritative.

Conventions

- Will have a title.
- Will use a neutral/objective style (e.g. presents ideas and facts plainly).
- Will have a clearly structured layout (e.g. a clear introduction, sub-headings, short brief paragraphs/sections, etc.).
- Will use passive voice.
- Will have a conclusion; or a recommendation if this has been required.

Useful Language

Stating purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The objective of this report is to examine...- This report has been commissioned to assess...- At the request of [senior management / the department], this document outlines...
Framing context	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- In light of recent developments...- As part of the ongoing evaluation of...- Following the implementation of...- Feedback gathered from students indicates that...
Presenting data or observations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- It was observed that a significant proportion of learners...- Survey results reveal a clear trend towards...- Preliminary findings suggest that...
Emphasizing relevance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- These findings are particularly relevant in the context of...- This is of particular importance considering...

How to choose it in Paper 1

- The situation involves providing factual information or findings.
- There is a clear audience that expects a formal and structured response.
- The prompt expects analysis, comparison, or recommendation.
- The task logically requires a structure with sections or headings.

Instruction

Exampler

Instruction of how to compost

Compost is the single most important supplement you can give your garden. It's a simple way to add nutrient-rich humus to your lawn or garden that fuels plant growth and restores vitality to depleted soil. It's also free, easy to make, and good for the environment. See below for a guide on how to get composting in your own garden.

How to Compost

1. Start your compost pile on bare earth. This allows worms and other beneficial organisms to aerate the compost and be transported to your garden beds.
2. Lay twigs or straw first, a few inches deep. This aids drainage and helps aerate the pile.
3. Add compost materials in layers, alternating moist and dry. Moist ingredients are food scraps, tea bags, seaweed, etc. Dry materials are straw, leaves, sawdust pellets and wood ashes. If you have wood ashes, sprinkle in thin layers, or they will clump together and be slow to break down.
4. Add manure, green manure (clover, buckwheat, wheatgrass, grass clippings) or any nitrogen source. This activates the compost pile and speeds the process along.
5. Keep compost moist. Water occasionally, or let rain do the job. Cover with anything you have - wood, plastic sheeting, carpet scraps. Covering helps retain moisture and heat, two essentials for compost. Covering also prevents the compost from being over-watered by rain. The compost should be moist, but not soaked and sodden.
7. Turn. Every few weeks give the pile a quick turn with a pitchfork or shovel. This aerates the pile. Oxygen is required for the process to work, and turning "adds" oxygen. You can skip this step if you have a ready supply of coarse material like straw. Once you've established your compost pile, add new materials by mixing them in, rather than by adding them in layers. Mixing, or turning, the compost pile is key to aerating the composting materials and speeding the process to completion.

That's all there is to it! Get out there and give your plants the love they deserve.

Audience+ Purpose

- Telling people exactly what to do in precisely which circumstances
- Thoughtful and detailed analysis of what is required
- The audience will be specified in the task, but is likely to be the Average family - competent in language and understanding, but not necessarily very sophisticated.

Register+ Tone

- Based on the audience
- Generally semi-formal
- Direct, clear and supportive tone

Conventions

- Have a clear and focused heading/title.
- Include a short introduction and conclusion.
- Set out the instructions clearly, using techniques such as bullets, sub-headings, numbering, etc.
- Directly address the intended audience.

Useful Languages

Before you start, ensure that... / Make sure you have...

The aim/purpose of these instructions is to...

Once [Step X] is complete,... / Having done this,...

Subsequently,... / Following this,...

Meanwhile,... / While [Action A] is happening,... (For simultaneous actions)

Ensure that... / Make sure (that)... (e.g., Ensure that the device is switched off.)

Check that... / Verify whether...

This is necessary for... / This ensures that...

Failure to do this may result in... (Warning)

Caution: ... / Warning: ... (Strong)/Important: ... / Note: ... / Please note: ... (General)

Be careful not to.../Avoid [action].../Do NOT [verb]...

Alternatively,... / If preferred, you can...

You should now see/have... (Desired outcome)

Double-check that all steps have been followed correctly.

How to choose it in paper1

An elderly member of your family has recently purchased a new computer but is having great difficulty sending emails from it. They desperately want to contact you and the rest of the family and are growing frustrated with their lack of technical skills. You empathise with their frustration and have decided to help. Write a text providing advice, a breakdown of the process and clear, concise explanations.

Essay

Instructions

Brochure

Guideline

• Audience + Purpose

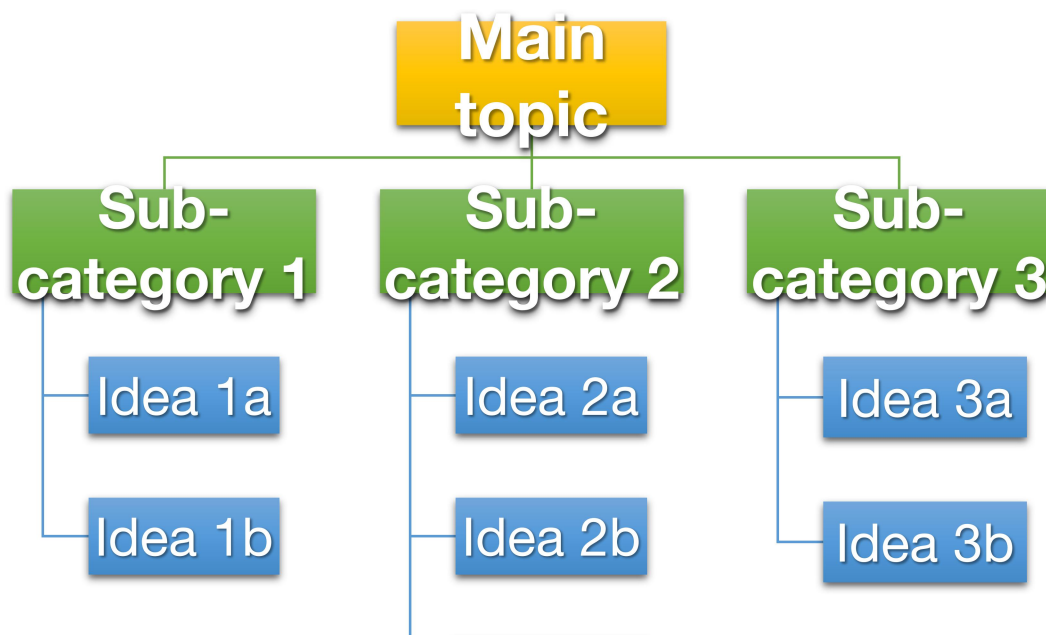
- The question will set up a context that requires telling people what they ought to do in a particular circumstance
- The audience will be specified in the task.
- Guidelines will attempt to give a coherent overview of more generalized advice.

• Register + Tone

- This can change based on the audience but generally will follow a semi-formal approach.

• Conventions

- Will have a clear and focused heading/title.
- Will include a short introduction and conclusion.
- Will generally make use of subheadings.
- Will set out the guidelines clearly, using techniques such as bullets, numbering, etc.



• Useful Language

Purpose Statement:	"This guideline aims to..." "The objective of this lesson is to develop students' understanding of..." "By engaging in this activity, students will cultivate..."
Guiding:Reflection Questions:	"What challenges did you encounter, and how did you overcome them?" "How did this activity connect to the IB Learner Profile (e.g., being Principled or Caring)?" "What improvements could be made for future tasks?"

Report

• Exemplar

IB Guideline: Teaching High School Students How to Clean the Classroom

Objective:

To develop students' sense of responsibility, collaboration, and practical life skills by teaching them how to properly clean and maintain their classroom environment.

Approach:

This guideline follows the International Baccalaureate (IB) approach, emphasizing Inquiry-Based Learning, Action, and Reflection while aligning with the IB Learner Profile (e.g., Principled, Caring, Balanced).

Lesson structure

1. Inquire

Guiding Questions:

Why is a clean classroom important for learning?

How does cleanliness affect health and productivity?

What are the consequences of neglecting classroom hygiene?

Activity:

Research Task: Students investigate the effects of cleanliness on mental focus and well-being (links to IB Global Context: Scientific and Technical Innovation).

Class Discussion: Share findings and relate them to the IB Learner Profile (e.g., being Caring towards shared spaces).

2. Demonstration

Key Cleaning Tasks to Teach:

Dusting and wiping surfaces

Organizing desks and materials

Sweeping and mopping floors

Proper waste disposal (recycling vs. trash)

Students practice in small groups (promoting Collaborative Skills).

Students write about their experiences and how cleaning fosters a Balanced and Principled lifestyle.

Essays

Exemplar:

Your English class recently had a class on the drawbacks of volunteering and how it might not be a force for good. You found the discussion interesting, but ultimately fruitless. So, you have decided to work out your opinion with clear and convincing arguments. Write a text in which you analyse problems underlying the issue, support your analysis with evidence, and present a clear, well-argued conclusion.

You recently came across an article that reported that mixed-race children are more likely to be academically gifted than others. This has intrigued you, and you want to work out your responses to the statement clearly and convincingly. Write a text in which you describe the assumptions behind the basic statement, explain arguments for and against, and then present your considered conclusion.

You are currently on holiday in a country you have never visited before, and you have just taken part in an event which is very typical of that country. This event has made a strong impression on you, and you wish to share this impression. Write a text in which you describe the event, explain why it made such an impression, and suggest what it may indicate about the culture of that country.

Somebody asked you the other day “In our modern world, are national borders still relevant?” You were not sure exactly what you think about this issue, and so you want to work out your opinion with clear and convincing arguments. Write a text in which you describe the problems underlying the question, support your description with examples, and present a clear, well-argued conclusion.

It appears that people visiting your country often fail to find out about the local customs in order to fit in well and not to give offence unintentionally. In order to help foreign students visiting your school, write a text which describes typical social behaviours, explains why these are significant, and suggests simple practical rules in order to feel at ease.

How we can compose an essay?

- 1: Before writing, have a simple plan of the structure of the essay. Normally, it includes opening (address the question/topic mentioned in the requirements), body paragraphs (analyzing perspectives, develop three ideas), conclusion (final thoughts).
- 2: Paying attention to the five-paragraph structure.
- 3: Using semi-formal or formal register according to the requirements, it would be good to use others' statements or any statistics to support the ideas.
- 4: The Final conclusion should have a final idea or opinion towards the topic.

Audience&Purposes:

The audience is assumed to be educated and informed, and capable of understanding sophisticated language, and methodical argument.

The purpose will usually be to analyse / explore / discuss the topic, as required by the question - so students should pay close attention to the 'action verbs' in the task.

Register & Tone:

Will generally use a semi-formal (personal essay) to formal (thesis-driven essay) register.

The tone of the essay should be generally be serious.

Conventions:

Will include a title (personal) or a question (thesis-driven).

Will use techniques that enable the reader to follow the arguments easily, e.g. methodical structure using cohesive devices.

Will have a distinct introduction/opening remark and conclusion/final thought.

Useful Languages:

Strengthen the persuasion:

According to ...'s statement, it manifests that...

For instance, in (Case Study), well-meaning ... indicates that...

Statistics reveal that X% of ... , leading to...

Guiding the Reader Through Counterarguments:

Some may argue that ... is better than none, yet this ignores...

However, this perspective fails to consider...

Conclusion:

The evidence overwhelmingly suggests that ... can do more harm than good.

To sum up, ...

How to choose it in Paper 1:

Your English class recently had a class on the drawbacks of volunteering and how it might not be a force for good. You found the discussion interesting, but ultimately fruitless. So, you have decided to work out your opinion with clear and convincing arguments. Write a text in which you analyse problems underlying the issue, support your analysis with evidence, and present a clear, well-argued conclusion.

Essay

Guidelines

Blog

Diary Entry

Exemplar

Thursday, October 17th, 2024

10:15 PM

Dear Diary,

Utterly exhausted. Today felt like running an endless marathon where the finish line keeps moving. The IB workload is relentless, and the pressure is starting to seep into everything.

Woke up feeling like I'd barely slept – because I hadn't. Stayed up far too late wrestling with my Chemistry IA draft. Mr. Henderson's feedback yesterday was... brutal, honestly. "Lacks sufficient depth in the methodology" and "the hypothesis needs greater clarity." Rereading it this morning over cold toast just soured my mood instantly. Felt a wave of inadequacy. Why can't I get this right?

The real low point hit after school. My CAS group met for our "Sustainable School Cafeteria" project. We'd spent weeks researching composting options and drafting a proposal. Presented it to Ms. Davies, the head of facilities. Her response was polite but crushing: "Commendable initiative, but the logistics and cost projections are unrealistic. The school budget simply can't accommodate this scale currently." She suggested we "scale back significantly" or focus on "awareness posters." Came home drained. Mum asked cheerfully about my day, and I snapped, "Fine!" in a tone that clearly said the opposite. Saw the hurt flicker in her eyes. Instant guilt. She doesn't deserve that. It's just... everything is piling up: the rewritten Chem IA due Monday, the History source analysis tomorrow, the scaled-down CAS project (whatever that looks like now), the EE supervisor meeting looming next week... sometimes the sheer weight of expectations makes me want to hide under my desk.

But... writing this down helps. Putting the chaos into words makes it feel less monstrous. Taking a deep breath. Okay. Tomorrow has to be better. I will apologise to Mum properly at breakfast. Then, I'll tackle the Chem IA feedback head-on during my free period – maybe just focus on reworking the hypothesis first. Small steps. As for CAS... maybe Ms. Davies is right about starting smaller? A pilot compost bin for the staff room? Less glamorous, but achievable. Need to email the group.

The IB isn't just about exams; it's about resilience, right? Well, mine is being tested to the max tonight. Feeling slightly less defeated now. Still overwhelmed, but maybe... focused? Determined to chip away at this mountain, one small rock at a time. Sleep is non-negotiable tonight. My brain is mush.

Signing off, bruised but not broken,

Luca

Audience & Purpose :

1. The defining characteristic of a diary is that there is no audience, other than yourself. It's a private reflection.
2. The purpose is to record some experiences in personal.
3. The purpose could also be sharing thoughts instead of showing publicly.

Register & Tone :

1. Informal tone.
2. The tone should be personal, frank, open.
3. The tone will be reflective to personality.
4. Generally narrative.
5. Use reflective language.

Conventions :

1. First-person narration.
2. Avoid self-evident explanatory phrases.
3. Closing statements.
4. Include date / day.
5. Could be addressed to diary (dear diary).

Useful language:I. Language for Expressing Feelings & Mood

Exhaustion "drained to the bone," "running on fumes," "weighed down," "mentally spent," wiped"
Frustration: "a knot of anger tightened," "pure helplessness washed over me," "tears of frustration pricked,"
Anxiety/Worry : "a pit of dread in my stomach," "my mind raced," "paralyzed by 'what ifs'," "the weight of expectations crushed me"

II. Language for Reflection & Analysis

Metaphors :

"suffocating blanket."

"a trapped bird fluttering in my chest."

"falling down a well."

III. Language for Authentic Voice & Flow

Natural Speech:

"My brain just froze."

"The feedback was brutal."

"Everything piled up today."

How to choose it in paper 1:

For some time, you have been impressed by the aims of a non-profit organisation, and so when you found an opportunity to do voluntary work with them, you spent a day seeing what the organisation does. This personal experience was extremely rewarding but also eye-opening. Write a text in which you reflect on the experience, work through the lessons you learnt, and summarise how the experience may have changed you as a person.

Review

Diary

Blog

Blog

● Audience + Purpose

- The audience will usually be people interested in the subject.
- The audience will generally be internet-savvy people/young people.
- The general purpose of blogs is to entertain/interest/amuse/be provocative.
- Not to be solemn/boring.

● Register + Tone

- Blogs tend to use a semi-formal/informal register
- The usual tone will be personal – chatty, direct and unpretentious

● Conventions

- Will include first-person statement and narration
- Will seek to engage the reader through direct address and a lively, interesting style
- Utilises anecdotes to give a more personal feel
- Will have a catchy, provocative title to draw in the reader

● Useful Language

Opening / Hooking the Reader	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● "Let me start with a quick story..."● "If you've ever felt like [insert emotion], you're not alone."● "Here's something that really got me thinking recently..."● "Chances are, you've probably heard this before—but stay with me."
Engaging and Conversational Tone	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● "I mean, seriously—who even does that?"● "You're probably wondering..."● "Here's the deal:"● "To be honest, I wasn't expecting that."
Personal Reflection / Opinion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● "In my opinion..."● "I've always believed that..."● "Looking back, I realize..."● "I used to think..., but now..."

● How to Choose in English B?

You went on holiday to a country you've always wanted to visit. Nothing went as you planned, and you came back home feeling disappointed and frustrated. You want to share your experience so that other people can avoid such problems. Write a text describing what you had initially planned, explaining what went wrong, and summarising the lessons that you have learned.

● Report (Official)

● Speech

● Diary

A blog will be appropriate if the task requires you to present a set of your personal ideas in a lively entertaining way to a general, undefined audience. You don't know who might find your blog on the internet, but you want them to be hooked by your interesting, even provocative, opinions and experiences.



blog

Blog

• Exemplar

14 October, 2020

MY LOVELY SALTA

Hello, my loyal followers! It's been a crazy week. I know I promised daily posts but school finals are about to start and I'm freaking out. I apologize! However, today's post is special. If you HAVE followed me since the beginning. You know that what I enjoy the most is traveling. And ever since I've been wishing to guide my followers through every corner of my country. That's why whenever I can, I do so. This gave me the opportunity to visit new places and meet new people. By getting in touch with many different cultures

I'm sure I've mentioned in previous posts that I'm currently living in Buenos Aires, Argentina. So, I'm totally a

city girl. in the city center there is no tranquility. The lights are never off. Can you believe that? Therefore, when I travel, I usually choose specifically cities that contrast Buenos Aires. To enrich and take full advantage of my experience

This time, my destination was Salta, or how we call it "Salta la Linda". The city of Salta is the capital of Salta province in northwest Argentina. It is located in the Lerma Valley right at the foothills of the Andes. it is a small but beautiful city full of a unique mix of colonial architecture and Incan influence.

But enough of the logistics. Here's a bit more about my experience. Although I wish I would have stayed longer, it was a short weekend get away with my family. We stayed at the "Marilina Hotel", simple but cosy. Enjoying a central location in the city of Salta. As it is located one block from Plaza 9 de Julio. I noticed, there is no need to book a hotel, most of the time they have a high availability. Also, the prices are very accessible. So you can definitely find something within your price range.

On my first day, I visited the "Salinas grandes". it was a long journalism bus, two hours from Salta. Luckily we stopped to eat in an incredible restaurant called "La Salena", where obviously I tried the famous "empanel saltines". I admit that it is a spicy flavor. That it is a typical Salta food and that all tourists are dying to try. After a couple of those we continued our journey. The Salinas are immense, I never imagined seeing such a white and smooth floor, I'll give you some advice, take a lot of pictures, you won't regret it!

At night, we went to "Una Pena". A characteristic place where regional musicians play folklore. This is a traditional rhythm that is very familiar around the country. Although, it's not the music that we usually listen to at parties, but the residents of this area do. They teach them from a young age to sing it, play it and dance it out. Isn't it amazing?

The next and last day, we went to buy souvenirs. At first, we didn't know where to go. Later we realized that Salta was full of handicrafts. from clothes, shoes, key chains, and magnets. I become aware now that I over-bought, but I can swear it's worth it. You'll see with the love and dedication their products are made.

My trip was whirlwind of traditional folk music, stunning views, handicrafts and traditional foods. Hence learned a lot. first, about Salta's culture. Traveling allows me to learn from different traditions. But not only learning is important, but also respecting them. That they are different is what from my point of view makes them special.

Well, by for now... Don't forget to like my post and check my pics! Leave a comment below and tell me what you want my next post to be about!

Proposal

● Audience + Purpose

- The audience of a proposal can vary depending on the context or the scenario prompt in the writing exam.
- The proposal aims to persuade the target audience to accept, support, or implement a specific idea, plan, or action. Identification of the problems, provision of potential advantages and disadvantages, discussion of the potential solutions ought to appear in the proposal to convince the target audience.

● Register + Tone

- The register can be formal or semi formal, depending on the target audience to the proposal. So absence of slang, contractions, and overly casual language is required. The tone ought to be convincing, persuasive, polite, confident but cautious. So absence of aggressive, flippant and satiric tone is required.

● Conventions

- The well-structured layout:
- Title~introduction~Problems/Background~Proposed solutions~Benefits and potential drawbacks~potential solutions(mitigation of severity)~conclusion
- Subtitles, Use of modal verbs, Passive voice, Linking phrases, Numbering/Bullet points

● Useful Language

Introduction: The objective of this proposal is to... This document sets out to explore possible improvements in... The following proposal outlines a strategy to address...	Problems: A number of concerns have been raised about... There is growing awareness of the problems related to... The current system/policy fails to address...	Benefits and potential drawbacks: This initiative would lead to... Such a measure would result in... Not only would this help to..., it would also...	Mitigation of Potential Drawbacks: To minimize this drawback, it is suggested that... This issue could be addressed by... To overcome this challenge, we propose...	Conclusion: If adopted, these measures could significantly improve... We urge the relevant authorities to consider the implementation of this plan.
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● How to Choose in English B?

It is important to understand the task's purpose and audience. When you are asked to suggest solutions or improvements for a problem, the task usually requires writing a proposal. Common prompts include phrases like "write a suggestion," "propose improvements," or "submit a proposal to the school committee." The prompt often outlines a problem that needs solving, indicating your response should include a clear plan or recommendation. The tone of a proposal is typically formal and persuasive, supported by facts and logical reasoning.

If you are asked to explain the problem, suggest feasible solutions, and discuss advantages and disadvantages to convince the audience, it is almost certainly a proposal.

Proposal

- Exemplar

Proposal to Introduce a School Recycling Program

Introduction

This proposal aims to address the growing issue of waste management at our school by introducing a comprehensive recycling program. With increasing awareness of environmental sustainability, it is essential for our school community to take responsibility for reducing waste and promoting eco-friendly practices.

Problems / Background

Currently, the school produces a significant amount of non-recycled waste, including plastic bottles, paper, and food containers, which all end up in general waste bins. This not only harms the environment but also misses an opportunity to educate students about sustainable living. Surveys have shown that over 70% of students and staff support environmental initiatives, yet there is no formal system in place to facilitate recycling.

Proposed Solutions

It is recommended that the school install clearly labeled recycling bins in all classrooms, the cafeteria, and common areas. These bins should be accompanied by informative posters explaining what materials can be recycled. Additionally, the school could organize workshops to educate students and staff about recycling's importance and proper sorting methods. Collaborating with local waste management services would ensure regular collection and proper disposal of recyclable materials.

Benefits and Potential Drawbacks

Implementing a recycling program would significantly reduce the school's waste footprint, promote environmental awareness, and foster a culture of responsibility among students. It could also enhance the school's reputation as an environmentally conscious institution. However, potential drawbacks include initial costs for purchasing bins and educational materials, as well as the risk of improper sorting leading to contamination of recyclables.

Potential Solutions (Mitigation of Drawbacks)

To minimize costs, the school could seek sponsorship from local businesses or apply for environmental grants. Clear and consistent communication, along with ongoing monitoring, would help reduce contamination. Assigning student volunteers or eco-clubs to oversee the recycling bins could ensure proper use and maintenance.

Conclusion

In conclusion, introducing a school recycling program offers a practical and sustainable way to tackle waste management challenges while educating the school community. With careful planning and support, this initiative could greatly benefit both the environment and the school's culture. It is strongly recommended that the school take immediate action to implement this program.

Interview

● Audience + Purpose

Audience: All public who are interested in the area of interview (e.g. music fans, sports fans and general public).

Purpose: To inform audience the content of the interview. To advertise some person, organizations or some characters, shows and songs.

● Register + Tone

Register: Semi-formal to formal (depend on the content of the interview and extent of familiarity between the interviewer and interviewee.)

Tone: Casual to serious, conversational, respectful, sometimes humorous.

● Conventions

Title

Introduction (sketch the main content of the interview)

Questions

Clear marked speakers (e.g. "Interviewer: " "Interviewee: ")

Dialogues

Reactions (e.g. [Laughs])

● Useful Language

Interviewer:

"Can you tell us more about...?"

"How did you feel when..."

"What was the biggest challenge when you..."

"What inspired you..."

Interviewee:

"That's a good question..."

"I'd say that..."

"Everyone thought it was..., however..."

"The person who I should thank to..."

● How to Choose in English B?

You are asked to interview some person in the question.

The content of the interview are asked to be recorded.

The content of the interview are asked to be shown to other people.

Interview

● Exemplar

Ferdia Walsh-Peelo and Mark McKenna say ‘Sing Street’ the band is still a possibility

The stars of John Carney’s coming-of-age musical comedy “Sing Street” have been on U.S. soil for just about 24 hours and they’re already envisioning the American dream: Going viral.

They chat over Cokes at the Eliot Hotel in Back Bay about the film, keeping the “Sing Street” band together and a John Carney-’80s education.

What songs did you perform when you were going through the audition process?

FW: I sang “Blackbird” and I think it really helped a lot that I didn’t go in and sing “Falling Slowly.” John said so many people thought it was such a good idea but he’s heard that song like a million times.

MM: I did an acoustic version of “Chocolate” by the 1975. It was pretty funny.

The film takes place in Dublin in the ‘80s, years before either of you were born, what did you have to research and learn before diving in?

FW: He sent me over loads of music videos from the ‘80s because that’s a really good place to learn from; they have the fashion and the vibe and the sound and the movements. Just watching Talking Heads and the Cure, a lot of that is hugely influential in the performances that we’re doing. It was a huge learning curve for all of us, especially me because I hadn’t discovered ‘80s music yet. Except Mark, he was already the master.

MM: I was already really into the ‘80s already, so when John would be like, “Mark, you should look up this band,” I’d be like, “John I already know that band.” [Laughs] Or “Mark, you should watch this John Hughes film,” I’d be like, “John, that’s my favorite John Hughes film.”

Even though it is decades ago, are there any major differences in growing up as a teenager in Ireland versus America that still ring true?

FW: What you see in “Sing Street” is pretty similar [to growing up in Ireland today], but not as violent.

MM: There are areas in Ireland that can still be quite rough, but the school wouldn’t be like that now.

FW: I went to a rough area in school but I somehow won bullies over and became great friends with them. I know I don’t seem like the type, but like in this day and age, if you play music, people just like you.

Are there any plans to keep the band going?

FW: Mark and I play good songs and we’ve thought about it, but we don’t want to push it. John (Carney) is not coming to us saying, “If you want to do this band thing, we’ll get you a record deal and we’ll pay for everything.” Instead he’s like, “If it happens it happens.” “We don’t want to be some kind of boy band, reminding people we’re from the movie “Sing Street.”

MM: We don’t want to be like 10 years down the line, with long beards, still singing “Drive It Like You Stole It” ...

FW: While crying. [Laughs]

“Sing Street” opens April 15 in New York, nationwide April 29.

by Rachel Raczka

Review

● Audience + Purpose

The question is likely to propose a general context (e.g. "a recently released film... which you love / hate...") - but the review itself should contain informative context (invented) about the specific subject of the review.

The audience will usually be decided by where the article will be published: e.g. 'your school magazine'

The prime purpose of a review is to stimulate interest ... then to inform ... and finally to offer some kind of judgement.

● Register + Tone

A review generally uses a semi-formal register.

Will use a tone and style intended to engage the reader.

● Conventions

- Will have an attractive, catchy title.
- Will often have a tag line or subheading under the main title.
- Will include the name of product being reviewed as well as other basic information.
- Will have a standardised structure – introduction, main body, final verdict.

● Useful Language

- | |
|--|
| ● "[Subject] is a masterclass in [specific skill/technique/effect]." |
| ● "[Subject] seamlessly blends [Element A] with [Element B]." |
| ● "[Subject] transcends [Genre/Expectation] to become something truly [Adjective]." |
| ● "[Specific Element] elevates the experience from [Ordinary Level] to [Exceptional Level]." |
| ● "[Subject] is not just [Common Description]; it's essential viewing/reading/listening." |

● How to Choose in English B?

A review will be appropriate if the task requires you to comment on a work of art of some sort (a film, an album, a play, etc) or some kind of product, service or event. The term 'comment' is assumed to include (i) a description, (ii) an analysis, and (iii) some sort of judgement on how successful it is (which elements are successful and which are not). The audience can be assumed to be the general public, although the task may specify a section with particular interests.

Review

● Exemplar

The Forgotten Current: More Than a Movie, It's a Revelation!

The Forgotten Current: More Than a Movie, It's a Revelation!

Forget dry documentaries – this masterpiece proves learning can be as thrilling as the deepest ocean trench!

Benjamín Cortés's "The Forgotten Current" left me exhilarated and enlightened. It's a blueprint for cinema that marries artistry with substance, immersing you in the life of brilliant oceanographer Marie Tharp (Alicia Vikander, phenomenal), whose 1950s work reshaped our understanding of Earth.

First, the Thrill Ride: Pure Entertainment

Dismiss any thought that "informative" means "boring." From a thrilling recreation of a storm-battered research vessel, Cortés grabs you instantly. Vikander embodies Tharp with fierce intelligence and quiet determination; her battle against post-war academia's sexism is as gripping as any hero's quest. The cast crackles with authentic tension. Masterful pacing weaves intense scientific discovery – meticulously plotting sonar soundings revealing the ocean floor – with deeply human drama: Tharp's isolation, frustrations, and triumphs. The oceanic score swells, and the cinematography is breathtaking. Oppressive labs dissolve into luminous CGI plunging you alongside Tharp's pen strokes, revealing underwater mountain ranges and the vast Mid-Atlantic Ridge rift valley. It's spectacular, resonant storytelling.

Beyond Spectacle: A Flood of Illuminating Truths

The film excels because its entertainment fuels its power to inform. Cortés makes Tharp's revolutionary discovery – crucial evidence for plate tectonics found in the mapped rift valley – viscerally exciting and understandable. We see the data compiled, feel the scientific resistance, and grasp the magnitude of proving Earth's crust moves. It brilliantly illuminates science's hidden process: the drudgery, collaboration, conflict, societal barriers (especially for women), and the electrifying click of a world-changing theory. It's a potent history lesson on a pivotal revolution and a stark reminder of erased figures, particularly women. You leave knowing what plate tectonics is, how it was proven, and who paid the price.

Why You MUST Catch This Current Now

This is essential viewing. "The Forgotten Current" models cinema's potential: it captivates, engages intellect, and stirs the soul. It transforms complex science into a compelling human story celebrating curiosity, perseverance, and courage. In an era where scientific understanding is vital yet challenged, Tharp's story is a beacon. Vikander delivers Oscar-worthy brilliance; Cortés directs with epic vision and intimate sensitivity. Watching feels important, filling you with awe for our planet and respect for its unseen explorers.

Don't wait. Rush to see "The Forgotten Current." Be dazzled by its visuals, moved by its story, and enlightened by its profound exploration of our dynamic Earth and the brilliant mind who mapped it. It doesn't just entertain and inform – it inspires. You'll leave seeing the world anew. See it now!