

# Different types of writing



The text extracts below could have come from any of the following types of writing: **instructions**, **explanations**, **poems**, **folk tales**, **novels**, **informative**, or **arguments**.  
Read each extract, then decide which type of writing it is.

Stop! Before you throw anything away, think ... ..

The old miller knew he had not long to live so ... ..

If the water is added gradually to the powder in the test tube, then ... ..

Thus, the water evaporates and returns to the atmosphere. ....

That peculiar person from Putney! .....

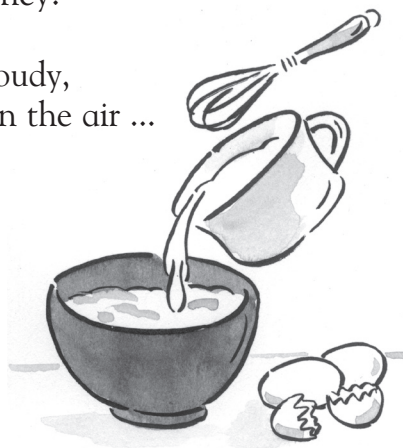
The day was warm, though cloudy,  
and I noticed a strange scent in the air ... ..

a blue-gray day  
a Saturday .....

Surely you must realize that ... ..

Add the beaten egg ... ..

The second planet from the Sun is called ... ..



Choose one of the above extracts that comes from a **fiction** book. Imagine what the rest of the paragraph might look like, and write a draft version on a separate sheet of paper. Then write the finished paragraph below.

**Remember:** **Fiction** means text that was invented by the writer.

.....

.....

.....

.....

If you want to, do the same thing by choosing an extract from a **nonfiction** book. Write the paragraph on a separate sheet of paper.

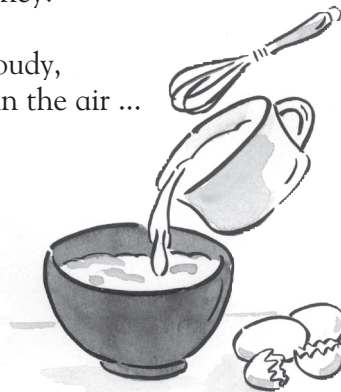
**Remember:** **Nonfiction** means that the informative in the piece of writing is factual.

# Different types of writing



The text extracts below could have come from any of the following types of writing: **instructions, explanations, poems, folk tales, novels, informative, or arguments.** Read each extract, then decide which type of writing it is.

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Stop! Before you throw anything away, think ...                                  | instruction ..... |
| The old miller knew he had not long to live so ...                               | folktale .....    |
| If the water is added gradually to the powder in the test tube, then ...         | information ..... |
| Thus, the water evaporates and returns to the atmosphere.                        | explanation ..... |
| That peculiar person from Putney!  | poem .....        |
| The day was warm, though cloudy,<br>and I noticed a strange scent in the air ... | novel .....       |
| a blue-gray day<br>a Saturday  | poem .....        |
| Surely you must realize that ...   | argument .....    |
| Add the beaten egg...  | instruction ..... |
| The second planet from the Sun is called ...                                     | information ..... |



Choose one of the above extracts that comes from a **fiction** book. Imagine what the rest of the paragraph might look like, and write a draft version on a separate sheet of paper. Then write the finished paragraph below.

**Remember:** **Fiction** means text that was invented by the writer.

.....

.....

.....

.....

If you want to, do the same thing by choosing an extract from a **nonfiction** book. Write the paragraph on a separate sheet of paper.

**Remember:** **Nonfiction** means that the informative in the piece of writing is factual.

This page helps your child to recognize the features of different genres (types) of text, and to use them in his or her own writing. Your child's paragraph should display elements of a particular style of fiction or nonfiction writing.