

Year 5 - Autumn 2
Writing genre - Explanation texts



Explanation texts
Apprentice Writing Targets
 Begin to use paragraphs to group ideas together
 Spell some contractions

Explanation texts
Expert Writing Targets
 Use relative clauses beginning with who, which and that (or an omitted relative pronoun) to add detail and description
 Semi-colons in a list

Explanation texts
Technician Writing Targets
 Use devices to build cohesion within a paragraph (e.g. then, after that, this, firstly)
 Brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis

Monday

LO: To identify features of explanation texts.

Monday - Fluency of skills - 3
Commas in Lists

Section 2
 Can you add commas in the correct places in these list sentence?

The horses' names were Bobby Merlin Pinto and Kingsley.
 The derelict house was full of old furniture dirty rugs piles of rubbish and a horrible smell.

Monday - Fluency of skills - 2
Suffixes

Question: Turn these words into nouns by adding -ness or -er. Write the new word in full on the line. Remember that some letters might need to be changed or added on.

happy _____ dark _____
 quiet _____ kind _____

Monday - Fluency of skills - 5
Accurately spell homophones

Look at these homophone words. Circle the correct word to fit the sentence.

The Olympians (rowed / rode / road) successfully into the coxless four final.

Despite being thrown from her horse, the jockey (rowed / rode / road) to the finish.

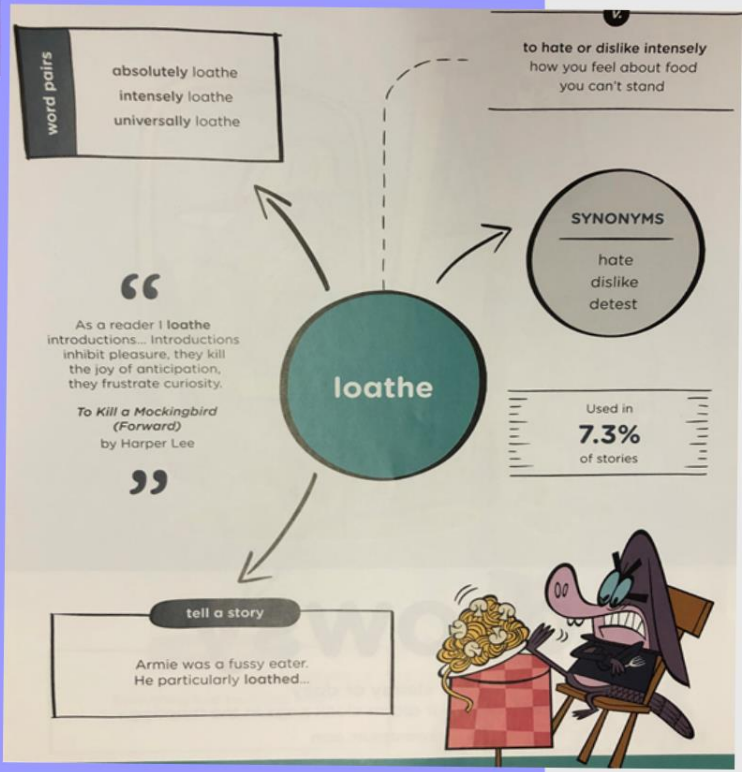
Word of the Day



loathe

v. to hate or dislike intensely
how you feel about food you can't stand

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Create your own mindmap:

Previous knowledge mindmap:

Explanations

Explanation Writing

Purpose: To explain how or why something happens

Technical Vocabulary
Remember, when using subject specific vocabulary, to put it in bold and in a glossary

Present Tense
These things are happening now

Introduction
Should introduce your main ideas, as well as giving some brief description

Time Connectives
Help the reader to understand the order

HOW TO WRITE AN:

EXPLANATION TEXT

Text boxes
Interesting facts/ "Did you know?" boxes can help engage the reader

Diagrams
Make sure your diagrams are clear and accurately

Title
Making your title a question can help guide your writing

Common Forms of Explanation text

- Textbook
- Encyclopedia entry
- Non-fiction book (e.g. geography, biology)
- Technical manual (e.g. for car, dishwasher)
- Question and answer articles and leaflets
- Write-up of science experiment

Structure and Tips

- Title**
Tell the reader what the explanation is about
- What?**
This paragraph explains what it is a part of or what it belongs to.
Introduce the reader to the subject of the explanation
- Parts (optional)**
Tell the reader the different parts that make up the subject (You don't have to have to include it if it doesn't work easily with your subject)
Would a diagram help?
- Key Points**
Tell the reader how it works or what happens
Select the important bits.
Organise your key points with sub-headings or numbers.
Use sequencing words such as firstly, next etc
- Diagram (optional)**
 - Caption
 - Parts labelled
 - Labels linked to parts with ruler drawn lines.

Summary

Tell the reader something special or important about the subject.

Feature find:

Explanation texts

Title using how or why

Subheadings

Subheadings

Pictures

Numbered steps

How is Ice Cream Made?

Ice cream is yummy to eat. We like to eat ice cream when the weather is hot and we like it for our puddings. Have you ever wondered how ice cream is made? This explanation will tell you how.

Mixing the Ingredients


Ice cream is made with milk and cream and sugar. First, all of the ingredients are mixed together. Then, the mixed ingredients are heated up to kill off any germs.

Flavours and Colours

The flavours and colours are added next. Mint flavour ice cream is green. Strawberry flavour ice cream is pink.

Frozen and Whipped

The mix is then frozen and whipped at the same time. This helps to put air into the ice cream. This makes it softer.

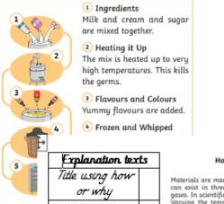


Blast Freezer

Now the mix looks like ice cream. It is put into tubs and put into a blast freezer. This machine freezes the ice cream at a very cold -40 degrees. That is as cold as the North Pole in winter.

How Ice Cream is Made?

- Ingredients
Milk and cream and sugar are mixed together.
- Heating it Up
The mix is heated up to very high temperatures. This kills the germs.
- Flavours and Colours
Yummy flavours are added.
- Frozen and Whipped



Explanation texts

Title using how or why

Subheadings

Parenthesis

Diagrams

Causal conjunctions (because, therefore, as a result...)

Technical language

Time adverbials

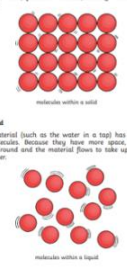
How Do Materials Change State?

Materials are made of tiny molecules (also known as particles) and can exist in three forms, which are solid, liquid and gas. In scientific terms, these are called the three states of matter. Varying the temperature or pressure of a material's surroundings affects its state.

The Three States of Matter

Solid
In a solid, the molecules' positions are quite rigid and they cannot move around much, if at all. As a result, solids (for example, ice) hold their shape.

Liquid
A liquid material (such as the water in a tea) has more loosely packed molecules. Because they have more space, the particles move around and the material flows to take up the shape of its container.



Explanation texts

Title using how or why

Subheadings


Parenthesis

Diagrams

Causal conjunctions (because, therefore, as a result...)

How Can the Snoozatron Help You Sleep?

When Wallace is struggling to sleep, he activates his 'Snoozatron' device. This remarkable contraption will help any insomniac inventor return swiftly to the land of nod. Would you like to know how it works? Then read on...



How It Works

Finding that he's wide awake in the middle of the night, Wallace pulls the big, red lever (next to his bed) that activates the machine; immediately, an alarm rings in Gromit's bedroom. As a result, his faithful assistant wakes up, retrieves a sheep costume from the wardrobe where it's kept and puts it on.

How It Works

Finding that he's wide awake in the middle of the night, Wallace pulls the big, red lever (next to his bed) that activates the machine; immediately, an alarm rings in Gromit's bedroom. As a result, his faithful assistant wakes up, retrieves a sheep costume from the wardrobe where it's kept and puts it on.

passes him his favourite teddy bear. As a consequence of all these events, Wallace starts to feel warm and comfortable again. At the same time, the picture on the wall starts to fold down to reveal a record player which subsequently begins to play soothing music. Additionally, the sound of lambs bleating can be heard.

At this point, Gromit is sleepily waiting in the kitchen, with a cup of tea, because he knows he'll soon be called to action. A hatch drops open above him and Wallace calls down, "Ready Gromit!" Gromit sighs. Wearily, he steps back onto a circular platform, which is in turn mounted on a massive spring. Suddenly, he is catapulted through the hatch into Wallace's room and up past the end of the bed, before falling back and rebounding on the platform.

This final process is repeated over and over. Every time 'Gromit the sheep' appears, Wallace counts: "One, two, three..." until he starts to feel sleepy again - the Snoozatron can reliably bounce Gromit up to 9999 times!



Gas

A gas's molecules are spaced very widely apart and bounce around freely to occupy the available space. Consequently, they will spread out as far as possible and want to disappear if they are not trapped in a container.

Liquid

Most materials, in everyday conditions, appear in only one state. However, many can possibly change between their three states according to alterations in their environment. For example, we can manipulate materials into changing states through the processes of heating and cooling.

Changing States

Evaporation
Evaporation refers to the process of a liquid gradually turning into a gas (vapour) at its surface as it is gently warmed by air currents. This is how water from the oceans becomes the water vapour in the air.

Condensation
Condensation is the scientific term for the process of a gas turning into a liquid. Each liquid has a different boiling point. Water boils at 100°C. The material nitrogen, which is a naturally occurring gas, boils at almost -200°C! When water boils, it returns from its liquid state into water vapour. From the open kettle, steam is released. As the boiling water vapour from the open kettle rises up, it condenses and becomes microscopic droplets - steam. If the steam then touches a cold surface such as a mirror, these droplets come together and the water reverts to its liquid state, dripping from the mirror.

Boiling
When a liquid is heated to its boiling point, it turns immediately into a vapour. Each liquid has a different boiling point. Water boils at 100°C. The material nitrogen, which is a naturally occurring gas, boils at almost -200°C! When water boils, it returns from its liquid state into water vapour. Steam, which is what we see above a boiling kettle's spout, is a mixture of water vapour and tiny droplets of water.

Freezing
In order to turn a liquid into a solid, it must be cooled, causing the molecules to slow down and assume a fixed position. When water is cooled down to 0°C, it solidifies (turns to ice). Interestingly, ice is the only solid that is less dense than its liquid form and therefore floats in water. Why not try it with an ice cube in your next glass of water to see?

Melting
Melting occurs when a solid under the molecules can move about again, which will turn it into a liquid. Just like boiling points, each material has its own melting point, although these may vary drastically. For instance, chocolate will melt at a relatively low temperature. You could try to refrigerate a chocolate bar after you hold it in your hand and see what happens. Other materials, such as gold, require very high temperatures of over 1000°C!

Diagram to show the cycle of the states of matter:

Materials can appear naturally at different states depending on their environment. Otherwise, we have deliberately altered the temperature or pressure to force materials into changing state. There are a number of different ways we can utilize changing the state of a material, such as freezing food to keep it fresh, boiling water to purify it for drinking or melting gold to form it into jewellery.

Use the resource sheets to underline the key features.
Choose which one you think is the most suitable for

Tuesday

LO: To research how roller coasters work.

Tuesday - Fluency of skills - 5
Accurately spell prefixes

Insert a prefix before the underlined root words to make the sentences make sense.

- a) The builders had to do a quick ____ design when it was clear the windows didn't fit.
- b) A completely new species of bear had been ____ covered only recently.
- c) The lorry was so big it took a long time to ____ take.

Tuesday - Fluency of skills - 3
Apostrophes for contractions

Section 6

Which words in these sentences could be made into a contracted apostrophe word? Underline them and write the contracted versions below.


I have not forgotten my swimming kit.

Tuesday - Fluency of skills - 2
Commas in a list

Add commas to the sentence below.

Susie Shabana Tom Amjid and Molly went swimming.

Word of the Day



nonchalant

adj. casual or indifferent
like someone who is effortlessly cool in any situation
mrswordsmith.com

word pairs

- nonchalant style
- nonchalant swagger
- nonchalant response

etymology

Nonchalant comes from the Old French *nonchalair*, which means "to be unconcerned".


synonyms

- casual
- indifferent
- unconcerned

Used in **2.6%** of stories

tell a story

Shang High was more nonchalant than ever as the crocodile opened its jaw wide...



nonchalant

How does a roller coaster work? - BBC Bitesize

Read through and watch video:

How does a roller coaster work?

Part of [The World Around Us](#) | [Funfair](#)

+ Add to My Bitesize

Did you know that roller coasters don't have engines? That's because they don't need them!

Gravity is the force that pulls things to the ground. Roller coasters rely on **gravity** to take them to the end of the track. This involves two types of energy, potential energy and kinetic energy.



What goes up, must come down

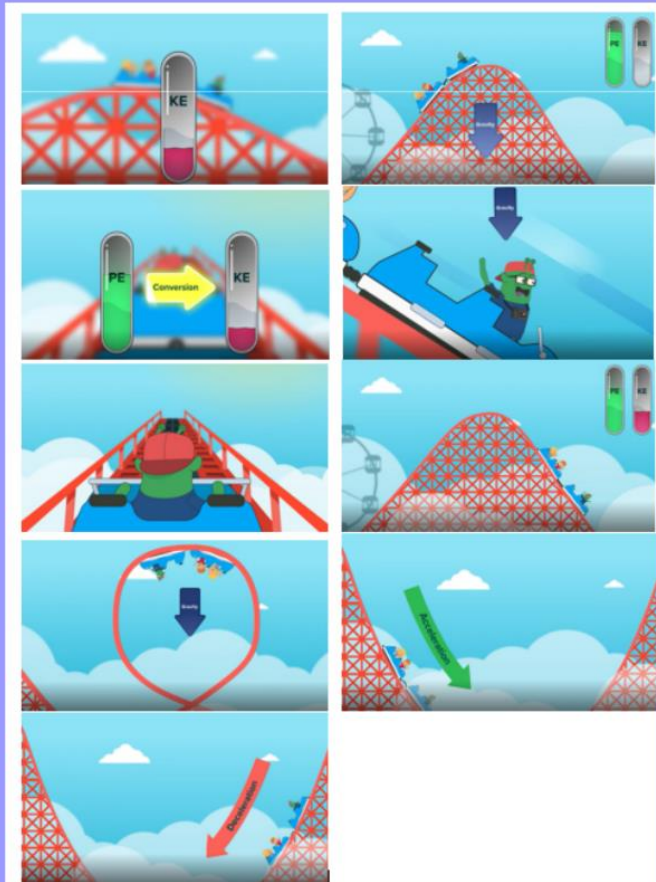
Create a glossary of these terms:

Technical term glossary:

- Acceleration
- Deceleration
- Gravity
- Kinetic energy
- Potential energy
- Momentum

potential = stored
kinetic = energy of motion
momentum = strength of a moving object

Cut and organise
into the correct
order:



Use video to help

Describe how a roller coaster works by writing a sentence next to each picture explaining what is happening.

Wednesday

LO: To write correctly punctuated sentences using subordinating conjunctions.

Wednesday - Fluency of skills - 2
Apostrophes for contracted words

Write the words **it is** as one word, using an **apostrophe**.

Don't forget _____ my birthday tomorrow.

Wednesday - Fluency of skills - 5
Adverbs for possibility

- Underline the adverbs of possibility.
- a) James has probably got the biggest collection of video games in the school.
 - b) Don't bother running after her - she's almost certainly gone.
 - c) Undoubtedly, she is the best hockey player in the world.

LO: To begin using subordinating conjunctions.

Wednesday - Fluency of skills - 3
Apostrophes for contractions

Write your own sentence that includes a contraction:

Word of the Day



prosperous

adj. successful or wealthy
like owning a thriving business

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adj.
successful or wealthy
like owning a thriving business

word pairs
prosperous future
prosperous city
prosperous community

SYNONYMS
successful
wealthy
fortunate

Used in
10.3%
of stories

“
Nor do we have much else.
We are sharers, not owners.
We are not **prosperous**.
None of us is rich.
The Dispossessed
by Ursula K. Le Guin
”

tell a story
Thanks to his **prosperous** business,
Plato could afford to buy...

A small version of the yellow bus illustration from the left page, located at the bottom right of the infographic.

Subordinating Conjunctions

after

although

as

because

before

if

once

provided (that)

since

that

though

unless

until / till

when

where

whereas

whenever

wherever

whether

while

Model sentences and change positions of conjunction:

Provided that you are sat securely in your carriage, the ride is about to begin.

I would advise that you go on all the rides you can before you eat some candyfloss.

Subordinating Conjunctions

after	although	as	because
before	if	once	provided (that)
since	that	though	unless
until / till	when	where	whereas
whenever	whenever	whether	while



Key:

Subordinating conjunction

Comma

Write your own sentences using subordinating conjunctions!

Subordinating Conjunctions

after	although	as	because
before	if	once	provided (that)
since	that	though	unless
until / till	when	where	whereas
whenever	whenever	whether	while



Challenge!

Can you include:

- parenthesis?
- relative clause?

Key:

Subordinating conjunction

Comma

Thursday

LO: To link cause and effect using causal conjunctions.

Thursday - Fluency of skills - 5 Adverbs for possibility

i. Rank these statements in order from the most certain to the least certain –

- a) It's probably hard to do.
- b) It's undoubtedly hard to do.
- c) It's clearly hard to do.
- d) It's possibly hard to do.

Thursday - Fluency of skills - 2 Past and present tense

Tick to show whether each sentence is in the past tense or the present tense.

Sentence	Past Tense	Present Tense
Sam rode his bike.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nazeem was dancing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sally is eating.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

LO: To use causal conjunctions in oral explanations.

Thursday - Fluency of skills - 3 Inverted commas to punctuate direct speech

Section 4

Could you add the missing punctuation to this sentence?



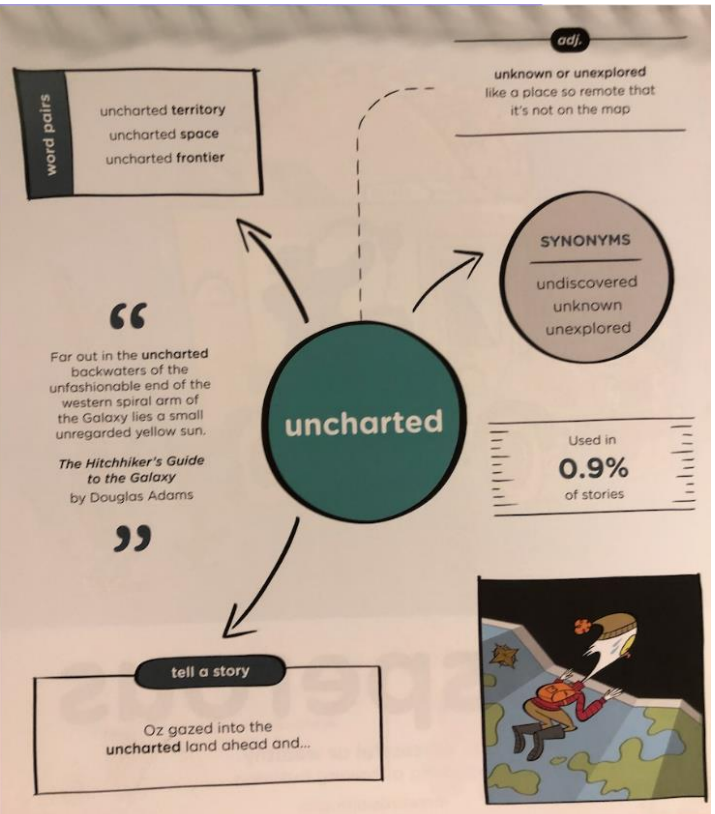
Do you want it any higher asked the gallery caretaker.

Word of the Day



uncharted

adj. unknown or unexplored
like a place so remote that it's not on the map



Causal conjunctions are used to explain how things work or why things happen.

I got soaking wet in the rain **because** I didn't have my umbrella with me.



I didn't have breakfast today, **so** I am really hungry now!



I am about to walk the dog **hence** my casual clothes and wellingtons.



Causal conjunctions can be:

Subordinating conjunctions

because
since
even though
as
now that

Coordinating conjunctions

so
yet

Adverbs/ Adverbials

accordingly
consequently
therefore
hence
as a result

Causal conjunctions link clauses and can be used in the middle of a sentence.

My watch is not broken **even though** I dropped it onto the floor.



I don't enjoy TV, **so** I have chosen to read tonight.



Causal conjunctions can also be used at the beginning of a sentence to refer to the sentence before.

I dropped my watch on the floor. **Consequently**, it is broken.

Andy broke his leg recently. **Accordingly**, he is unable to ski at the moment.

The school heating is not working. **As a result of this**, the building is closed today.



Causal conjunctions can be:

Subordinating conjunctions

because
since
even though
as
now that

Coordinating conjunctions

so
yet

Adverbs/Adverbials

accordingly
consequently
therefore
hence
as a result



Now that you have flicked the switch on the kettle, the water will begin to boil.

Discuss punctuation and explanation can be made up..



When using the microwave, you must press the buttons to set the time you need for your food. As a result, the microwave will cook your food for the desired time.

Causal conjunctions can be:

Subordinating conjunctions

because
since
even though
as
now that

Coordinating conjunctions

so
yet

**Adverbs/
Adverbials**

accordingly
consequently
therefore
hence
as a result

Choose an image and write an explanation for how it works using causal conjunctions.

Use a crayon to underline your causal conjunctions

Causal conjunctions can be:

Subordinating conjunctions because since even though as now that	Coordinating conjunctions so yet	Adverbs/ Adverbials accordingly consequently therefore hence as a result
--	---	--

Remember, it doesn't have to be true if needed, pupils can give these explanations verbally.

