



Explanation Text

Audience	Someone who wants to understand a process or an event
Purpose	To help someone understand a process or why something is, or has happened
Typical Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Series or logical – often chronological – explanatory steps • Paragraphs usually beginning with a topic sentence • Often illustrated by diagrams to aid understanding
Typical Language Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal language • Present tense • Casual connectives and signposts to link explanation • Generalisation • Detail to help understand points – often in form of information • Technical vocabulary
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does a bicycle pump work? • Why does it get colder when you go up a mountain? • How did the Egyptians build the pyramids?

Useful temporal connectives for explanation

- At first
- Before
- During
- At an earlier time
- At a later time
- Finally

Useful casual connectives explanations

- When...
- Because...
- Surprisingly...
- Interestingly...
- Therefore...
- This enables...
- Consequently...
- This can be explained by...
- Another reason why...
- This allows...
- Owing to the fact that...