

English SATS - Writing Tests

In your English SATS Writing Tests you may be asked to write in different ways depending on the task. There are many different sorts of texts or text types and they are listed below and shown in more detail on the next page.

Each of the text types has a different structure and different language features. They each have a different purpose. All of these texts have been taught in Year 6 and in years previously. You will need to know how to write these different text types.

- Recount
- Report
- Explanation
- Procedure
- Persuasion
- Discussion (Balanced Argument)
- Narrative

You need to make sure you know what you are being asked to write by reading the Exam Prompts very carefully. You need to make sure you use the appropriate 'Text Structure' and 'Language Characteristics'.

Sometimes the writing task may be a combination of text structures - such as a persuasive letter; a persuasive narrative or recount.

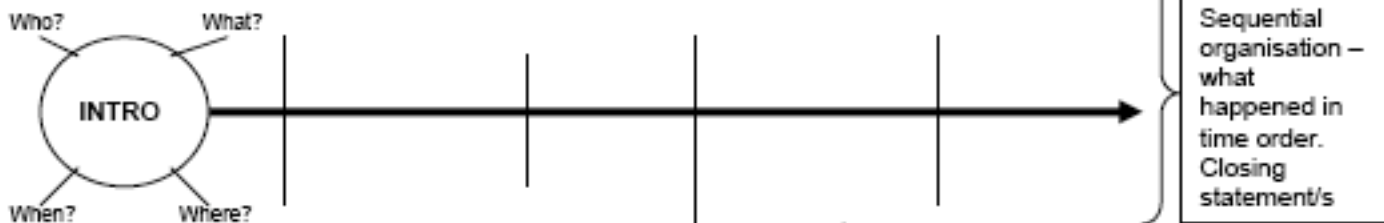
TYPES OF TEXT AND TYPICAL FEATURES

Text Type	Examples	Typical Text Structure	Typical Language Characteristics
Recount	account of visit or historical event	chronological scene setting sequence of events closing statement	past tense time markers When, then, finally focus on individuals (Queen Victoria, the Prime minister) use of action words (ordered, discovered)
Report	textbook descriptions in science or topic	non-chronological opening general statement (The solar system is made up of...) technical elaboration of category description of category	present tense focus on groups of things illustrations and diagrams sections, headings and different print sizes use of technical language use of 'be' and 'have' verbs
Procedures	instructions to make something	chronological statement of goal materials / requirements sequence of steps	present tense or imperatives use of time markers (then, after) focus on non-specific person (you) mainly action words diagrams and illustrations
Explanation	how things work; life cycles	chronological introductory statement logical organised steps (when, that, then, this)	present tense markers of time or cause (when, because) use of action vocabulary diagrams and illustrations
Persuasion	Example: protest against school uniform	non-chronological opening position statement series of points summary and restatement	present tense, questions and imperatives modal verbs (may, should, can) causal connectives (because, therefore) generic subjects (children, teachers)
Discussion Balanced Argument	Example: should marbles be banned in the playground?	non-chronological opening statement of issue arguments for and against summary and conclusion	present tense causal and contrastive connectives (because, on the other hand) generic subjects (children, parents) 'mental process' verbs (feel, think)
Narrative (FICTION)	Example: fairy tale, adventure story	chronological opening, setting the scene characters, actions, events dilemma resolution coda (eg moral message)	past tense dialogue developed scene and characters descriptive vocabulary

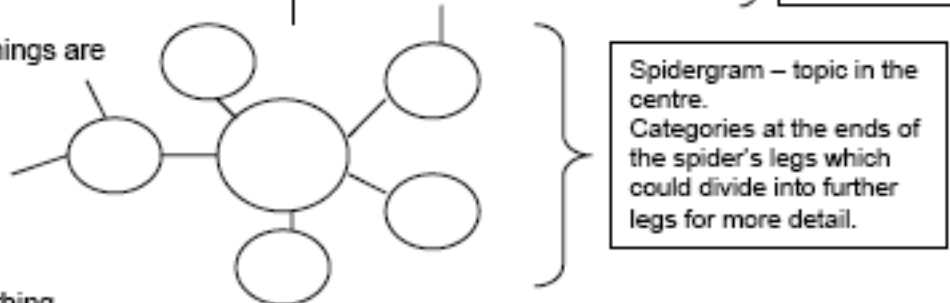
NON-FICTION TEXTS

The Six Text Types – Skeletons for Writing

Recount – retelling events in time order



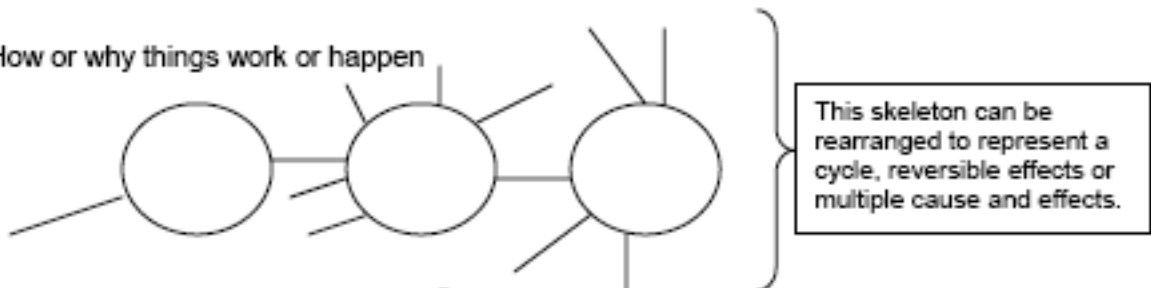
Report – Describing the way things are



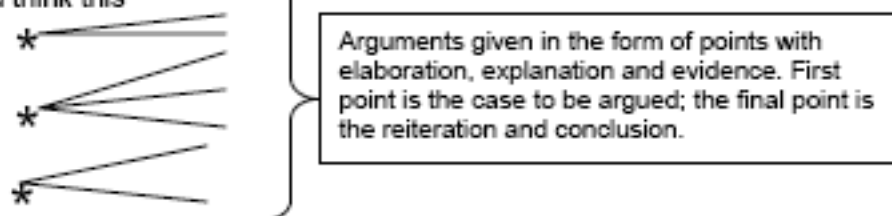
Instruction – How to do something



Explanation – How or why things work or happen



Persuasion – Why you should think this



Discussion – Reasoned argument

