

Vocabulary

Worksheet 1: Uses and effects of words

Key point

Knowing how to recognise key words helps you to understand the main points in a text. Writers always have an intention when they write something and it is important to know how to identify different purposes of texts.



Get started

1. Read the following sentences and circle the word that best describes their purpose.
 - Employees must wear safety helmets at all times. instruct / describe / persuade
 - It was such a bright, sunny, beautiful day. instruct / describe / persuade
 - It is very easy to use and has more than 26 essential vitamins. instruct / describe / persuade
 - To apply for the role, you must fill in an application form. instruct / describe / persuade
 - If you want to be part of a great team, you should apply for this role. instruct / describe / persuade
 - The train station is a five-minute walk from the office. instruct / describe / persuade

Watch out!

Most texts will have more than one purpose. Make sure you can identify the **main purpose** of a text.

2. Look at this sentence again:

It was such a bright, sunny, beautiful day.

From the options below, circle the words that helped you to understand the purpose of this sentence.

was bright sunny beautiful day



Try this

Guided 1. Make the following sentences more descriptive by adding words from the box below.

relevant unusual slow recent regularly

- The recipe included unusual ingredients that were difficult to find.
- It is important to exercise to stay healthy.
- The interview lasted an hour. They asked questions about my experience and skills.
- I had to take a train home.

Hint

Think about which key words help you to understand whether the sentence instructs, describes or persuades.

Hint

Texts that describe and persuade often use adjectives or adverbs to give detail.

Hint

Remember that adjectives describe something and adverbs add more information.

What to do if you discover a fire

Set off the alarm at the nearest alarm point.

Leave the building by the nearest fire exit. Look for the FIRE EXIT signs.

Go to the assembly point.

Do not use any of the lifts.

Do **not** stop to collect your personal belongings.

Hint

Texts that instruct will use verbs to tell you what action is needed. Sometimes they make it clear what you should do and **not** do.

3. Read these **two** sentences.

Sentence 1: Exercising, even for just 20 minutes a day, will ensure you stay fit, healthy and positive.

Sentence 2: Exercising is good for your health.

a. Which sentence is more persuasive?

Sentence 1 Sentence 2

b. Give a reason for your answer to part a.

Hint

Texts that persuade use descriptive words to encourage you to do something.



Aim to pass

1. Read the advert below from a volunteering website.

Looking for a volunteering role this summer? Look no further!

Festival Volunteers offers a wide range of volunteering opportunities at some of the UK's biggest music festivals.

As a volunteer, you will meet loads of new people and get some great work experience to put on your CV. You'll also get to see the best bands and DJs in the world perform live.

We have lots of different roles available and we'll give you all the training and information you need.

To apply, all you have to do is complete an application form and one of our friendly volunteer coordinators will contact you. What are you waiting for? You are one step away from having an amazing summer – apply today!

a. What is the purpose of the text? Put a tick in the correct box. (1 mark)

A	To persuade you to go to festivals in the UK	<input type="checkbox"/>
B	To give information to festival staff	<input type="checkbox"/>
C	To persuade you to become a festival volunteer	<input type="checkbox"/>
D	To tell you about bands performing at a festival	<input type="checkbox"/>

b. Look at these phrases from the advert:

'...you will meet loads of new people'

'You'll also get to see the best bands and DJs in the world perform live'

'You are one step away from having an amazing summer'

What do these phrases tell you about volunteering at festivals? Put a tick in the correct box. (1 mark)

A It is very serious. B It can be fun.



Rate yourself

How confident are you at recognising the uses and effects of words?



Got it!

Great! Move on to the next activity.



Not there yet...

Try one of the booster sheets for this worksheet.