

Vocabulary

Booster 6: Vocabulary to make a text more explanatory

Key learning

Explanatory words are used in texts that 'explain'. They give reasons for something or add detail. If you find yourself asking why when reading a text, it probably needs more explanation.

For example, you might read the notice 'Please ensure these lights are left on' and wonder why. The text offers no explanation here.

Worked example:

1. Which of the following sentences explains more?
 - A. Please report to reception on arrival.
 - B. It is better to make an appointment as this means we can see you promptly.
2. Which words in the sentence you chose make it more explanatory?

Answers:

1. B is more explanatory.
2. This is because it says 'as this means', explaining why it is better to make an appointment.

Your turn:

1. Which of the following sentences explains more?
 - A. The quickest and easiest way to return goods is via the post office.
 - B. You can return items in three ways.
2. Identify the words used to make the sentence you chose more explanatory.
3. Add some explanatory words to the following sentences to explain why colour photocopying is not allowed.

Colour photocopying is not allowed. Please copy only in black and white.