

## Year 5 English Distance Teaching and Learning

Week beginning: 8.6.20

Lesson 4		
<b>Learning Intention</b> WALT recognise formal and informal writing	<b>Key Vocabulary:</b> Formal-following established form, custom, or rule Informal-something or someone who is casual or relaxed	<b>What you will need:</b> Pen Lined paper/English book Challenges Lesson 4 video

### Starter

Suggest some synonyms for the words below:

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Man																			
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(See Mark Scheme)

### Main Teaching

Start by writing your own definitions of the words formal and informal. Then, check with a definition in the Mark Scheme.

Let's see if we can get a deeper understanding of some of the conventions of formal and informal language.

Read carefully, the table below, which shows the conventions of formal and informal language.

formal	informal
uses specific vocabulary for the subject	use more contractions and abbreviations (e.g. it's or TV)
uses the correct grammar and punctuation	is clear and to the point
has a more serious tone	has a more 'chatty' tone
often uses complex sentence structures	uses clichés (e.g. raining cats and dogs)
	uses text-style words (lol)

### Task 1

Formal and informal language are more suited to different situations. Write the following situations into the correct place in the table, according to which style of language would be more suitable.

presenting an award	talking to the headteacher	writing a letter of complaint
talking to friends	talking on the phone to gran	writing an email to a cousin
writing a report	sending a text to a friend	writing a personal diary

<b>Formal</b> Language	
<b>Informal</b> Language	

(See Mark Scheme)

Some vocabulary is more formal, whereas other is more informal in tone. Match these formal and informal words with the same meanings (synonyms). One has been done for you.

Formal	Informal
profession	now
injustice	chance
sufficient	enough
opportunity	job
sacrifice	give up
immediately	not fair

(See Mark Scheme)

### Task 3

Read the sentence below and decide if it is formal or informal.

Mother disliked it when we were boisterous, as she said we were a hindrance to her.

Underline the words that influenced your decision.

(See Mark Scheme)

### Task 4

Circle the words in the following sentence you would not use if you were texting a good friend.

The television production I observed last night was superb and I believed the cast to be incredibly talented.

(See Mark Scheme)

### Task 5

Look at this piece of writing. Is it formal or informal? Explain how you know.

According to the government, it is recommended that individuals are conscious about their diet and exercise habits.

(See Mark Scheme)

Independent Tasks

Challenge 1

1a. Read the sentence below. Is it formal or informal?

We have visited the library on many occasions and we shall continue to do so.

Explain how you know.



1b. Read the sentence below. Is it formal or informal?

I'm going on a school trip to the theme park next week which is really cool!

Explain how you know.



2a. Here is an extract of a letter to a friend. Underline the parts that you think are too formal.

Hi there, are you looking forward to your birthday? I may well be able to attend after all which is marvellous. Is there something you would like me to purchase for you as a gift?

Edit the extract by writing suggestions for the parts you have underlined.



2b. Here is an extract from a travel brochure. Underline the parts that you think are too informal.

The beach is lush and is pretty close to the hotel. The food's ok, but the rooms are ace! The pool is way too busy, but the reception desk is open all the time.

Edit the extract by writing suggestions for the parts you have underlined.



3a. Katie says that her mum's note is too informal to send to her teacher.

.....  
 Hi Miss,  
 Katie isn't feeling  
 great today so  
 can she give P.E a  
 miss?  
 Ta,  
 Katie's mum

Do you agree? Explain how you know.



3b. Jacob says that Amelia's writing is too formal to apply for a job.

.....  
 Dear Sir / Madam,  
 I am writing to enquire whether there are any vacancies in your office for someone to work three days a week. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.  
 Yours sincerely,  
 Amelia Barker

Do you agree? Explain how you know.



4a. Read the passage below. Is it formal or informal?

It is of vital importance that the individual to whom the vehicle belongs is the one to retrieve the keys, as a security measure to prevent theft.

Explain how you know.



4b. Read the passage below. Is it formal or informal?

The inquisitive nature of the curious, young feline overwhelmed him, resulting in a tumble down the well.

Explain how you know.



5a. Here is an extract of a personal diary entry. Underline the parts that you think are too formal.

Had a superb time at Amy's party. The majority of us danced and played foolish games, while the others conversed politely. Can't wait for next week due to the school closing for the summer.

Edit the extract by writing suggestions for the parts you have underlined.



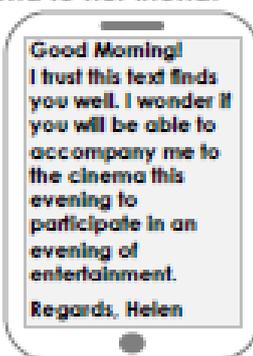
5b. Here is an extract of a school report. Underline the parts that you think are too informal.

Jack is pretty good at most stuff in class. He can use his knowledge of maths to help with problem solving and is always dead chuffed when he is the first to find the answer.

Edit the extract by writing suggestions for the parts you have underlined.



6a. Doug says that Helen's writing is too formal to send to her friend.



Do you agree? Explain how you know.



6b. Oliver says that Jenny's writing is too formal to send to her friend.



Do you agree? Explain how you know.



7a. Read the passage below. Is it formal or informal?

I'm gutted that I've had loads of aggro with my mouth lately, so I'm off to the dentist to get my gnashers seen to - it best not hurt!

Explain how you know.



7b. Read the passage below. Is it formal or informal?

Come hither young maid; this goodly fellow will teach you your manners, for we cannot have you becoming a rapscaillion!

Explain how you know.



8a. Here is an extract of a recipe. Underline the parts that you think are too informal.

**Method:**

1. Mix the stuff together in the bowl - stir as fast as poss.
2. Pour the runny stuff into a pan, and don't forget to keep stirring, otherwise it'll burn and be done for.

Edit the extract by writing suggestions for the parts you have underlined.



8b. Here is a public notice. Underline the parts that you think are too informal.

**Polite Notice**

I'm gonna have to ask that you lot clear up your mess and think about other peeps that use this stuff too if you wanna continue being able to use the place - it looks like a proper shambles!

Edit the extract by writing suggestions for the parts you have underlined.



9a. Nigel says that Louise's writing is too formal for a note on the fridge.

Good morrow to you,  
I beseech you recall our recent confabulation whereupon you agreed to cook this eventides banquet.  
Most humble regards,  
Mama

Do you agree? Explain how you know.



9b. Bruce says that Verity's writing is too informal for her report.

'...Polar bears are in a mighty bad way and things are looking shady for them. Global warming has stuck it to them bad and they'll be done for if things don't change. I reckon there won't be an Arctic in the future...'

Do you agree? Explain how you know.



### Challenge X

Here is an extract from a weather forecast. Underline the parts that you think are too informal.

The white stuff has hit the UK this week and Wednesday is gonna be freezing, with temperatures nosediving to minus two degrees.

Edit the extract by writing suggestions for the parts you have underlined.

## Review

James says that Anne's writing is too informal to send to her bank.

Dear Bank Manager,  
I'm pretty bad with cash so I've run out  
(again) and wondered if you might give us  
some more until pay day.

Ta,  
Anne Johnson

Do you agree? Explain how you know.

## Mark Scheme – Lesson 4

### Starter

Suggest some synonyms for the words below:

Various answers, for example:

Friend
mate
pal
comrade

Holiday
vacation
trip
excursion

Food
scraps
provisions
fodder

Money
cash
wonga
currency

Man
bloke
gentleman
fella

Woman
lady
female
girl

Children
kids
sprogs
infants

### Main Teaching

#### Formal Language

Formal language is used for more official and serious purposes. The correct grammar should always be used.

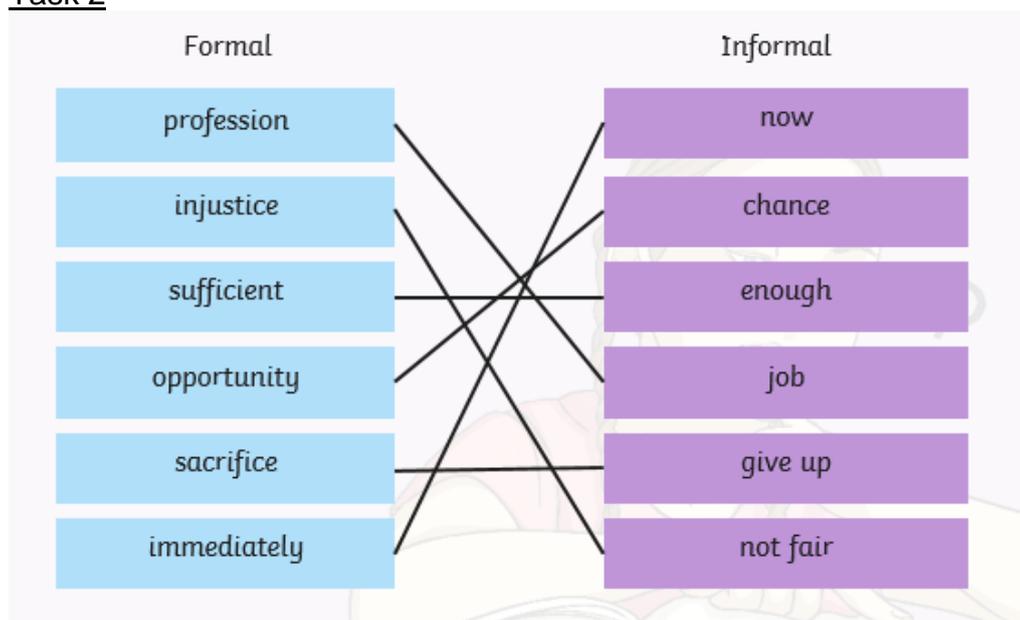
#### Informal Language

In informal situations and informal writing, a more relaxed casual and chatty style can be used. Slang words and abbreviations are more acceptable.

### Task 1

<b>Formal</b> Language	talking to the headteacher presenting an award writing a letter of complaint writing a report
<b>Informal</b> Language	talking to friends talking on the phone to gran writing an email to a cousin sending a text to a friend writing a personal diary

### Task 2



### Task 3

Mother disliked it when we were boisterous, as she said we were a hindrance to her.

This sentence is formal.

### Task 4

The television production I observed last night was superb and I believed the cast to be incredibly talented.

### Task 5

According to the government, it is recommended that individuals are conscious about their diet and exercise habits.

I know that it is written in a formal tone because it uses formal language such as 'according to the government, it is recommended' instead of 'the government says you should' instead of 'been to' and 'continue' instead of 'carry on'.

### Independent Tasks

#### Challenge 1

1a. I know that it is written in a formal tone because it uses formal language such as 'occasions' instead of 'times', 'visited' instead of 'been to' and 'continue' instead of 'carry on'.



1b. I know that it is written in an informal tone because it uses informal language such as contractions (I'm), and 'trip' instead of words like 'excursion' and 'cool' instead of words like 'excellent'.

2a. Various edited versions which include informal language, for example:

Hi there, are you excited for your birthday? I can come after all which is great. Is there something you would like me to buy for you as a present?

2b. Various edited versions which include formal language, for example: The beach is stunning and within close proximity to the hotel. The food is adequate, but the rooms are outstanding. The pool is popular, but the reception desk is open 24 hours.

3a. Katie is correct as the note includes informal language and contractions such as: hi, ta, isn't and give P.E. a miss. An informal note would not be written to someone like Katie's teacher. As they are in a position of authority, we speak to them formally.

3b. Jacob is incorrect as a job applications need to be formal. The letter has been addressed and signed off appropriately, and formal language such as: enquire and vacancies has been used.

### Challenge 2

4a. I know that it is written in a formal tone because it uses formal language such as 'vital importance' instead of phrases like 'really important', 'vehicle' instead of 'car/van' and 'retrieve' instead of 'collect/get'.

4b. I know that it is written in a formal tone because it uses formal language such as 'inquisitive natures' instead of phrases like 'nosiness', 'young feline' instead of 'kitten' and 'resulting in a tumble down the well' instead of 'so he fell down the well'.

5a. Various edited versions which include informal language, for example:

Had an awesome time at Amy's party! Most of us danced and played daft games, while the others chatted. Can't wait for the summer holidays next week.

5b. Various edited versions which include formal language, for example:

Jack is competent in most areas of learning. He can apply his knowledge of maths to help with problem solving and is delighted when he is the first to find the solution.

6a. Doug is correct as the text message includes formal language such as: I trust this text finds you well, accompany, participate, entertainment, regards etc. which is not how we would speak to a friend.

6b. Oliver is correct as the postcard includes formal language such as: truly splendid, spectacular, cuisine, exquisite etc. which is not how we would speak to a friend.

### Challenge 3

7a. I know that it is written in an informal tone because it uses informal language such as 'gutted' instead of words such as 'aggrieved', 'aggro' instead of 'intense pain' and 'gnashers seen to' instead of 'teeth examined'.

7b. I know that it is written in a formal tone because it uses formal language such as 'hither' instead of words such as 'here', 'goodly fellow' instead of 'man/bloke/fella' and 'rascalion' instead of 'scamp'.

8a. Various edited versions which include formal language, for example:

Method: 1. Mix the ingredients together in the bowl; stir rapidly.

2. Pour the batter into a pan and stir continuously to avoid burning.

8b. Various edited versions which include formal language, for example: It is requested that individuals leave this space in an orderly fashion, and be considerate of other users of these facilities, should you wish to continue utilising them; the present condition is wholly unacceptable.

9a. Nigel is correct as the note includes very formal, archaic language such as: morrow, beseech, confabulation, whereupon, eventide, banquet etc. which would not be used in a note.



9b. Bruce is correct as the essay includes informal/slang vocabulary and contractions such as: a mighty bad way, shady, stuck it to them bad, done for, I reckon, they'll etc. which would not be used in an essay.

#### Challenge X

The white stuff has hit the UK this week and Wednesday is gonna be freezing, with temperatures nosediving to minus two degrees.

Edit the extract by writing suggestions for the parts you have underlined.

Various edited versions which include formal language, for example: Snow has fallen on the UK this week and Wednesday is predicted to be the coldest day, with temperatures falling to minus two degrees.

#### Review

Dear Bank Manager,  
I'm pretty bad with cash so I've run out  
(again) and wondered if you might give us  
some more until pay day.  
Ta,  
Anne Johnson

James is correct because the letter includes contracted words (I'm, I've) and informal vocabulary e.g. pretty bad, cash, give us, ta etc.