# SPaG: Formal and Informal Writing

# Aim:

Recognise the difference between structures typical of informal speech and structures appropriate for formal speech and writing, (including the use of the subjunctive form.)

I can identify the differences between formal and informal speech and writing and write in a formal style.

# **Prior Learning:**

It will be helpful if children have completed Y6 Formal and Informal Language: Speech Lesson 1. Revision of letter writing would be useful.

### **Resources:**

**Lesson Pack** 

#### **Success Criteria:**

I can identify and explain the differences between formal and informal writing.

I can write in a formal or informal style using appropriate language features.

I can recognise and use the subjunctive form in formal writing.

# **Key/New Words:**

formal, informal, subjunctive

## **Preparation:**

Activity Sheet Types of Writing Cards - 1 per group

Formal Letter Example - 1 per child Differentiated Activity Sheet Writing a Formal Letter - 1 per child

Activity Sheet Formal and Informal Text Types - 1 per pair

Differentiated Activity Sheet Writing Emails - 1 per child

Mini Test - 1 per child

Application Activity - 1 per child

# **Introductory Activity: Formal and Informal Writing**



Read the information from the first slide. Ask children to discuss when and why formal and informal writing could be used using the Types of Writing Cards Activity Sheet. Sort the cards into 'formal', 'informal' or 'formal or informal'. Share and discuss the children's reasons for sorting the cards this way. Can children correctly identify which texts could be formal and informal and recognise that the audience and reason for writing will affect the style of writing that is used?

# **Independent Focused Activity: Defining Formal Writing**



Read the information about the features of formal and informal writing (and the use of subjunctive forms if required). Read the **Formal Letter Example** together. Discuss tricky vocabulary and formal writing features. (You may wish to revise the conventions of formal letter writing.) Children then complete the differentiated **Writing a Formal Letter Activity Sheet** to respond to the letter. Look for children who are able to write using a convincing formal style using the appropriate language features. (Can they use the subjunctive form?)

#### **Review Activity: Formal and Informal Text Types**

In pairs children complete the Formal and Informal Text Types Activity Sheet.

Can children correctly identify which texts could be formal and informal and recognise that the audience and reason for writing will affect the style of writing that is used?

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# **Consolidation Activity: Writing Emails**

Children complete the differentiated Writing Emails Activity Sheet to practise writing in informal and formal styles. Look for children who are able to adopt and maintain the appropriate formal or informal writing style and associated language features to write for a specific purpose.



### **Assessment: Formal Writing**

Children complete the Mini Test and Application Activity. They identify formal and Informal writing styles in the minitest and then re-write an informal text in a formal style to practise applying their learning.

