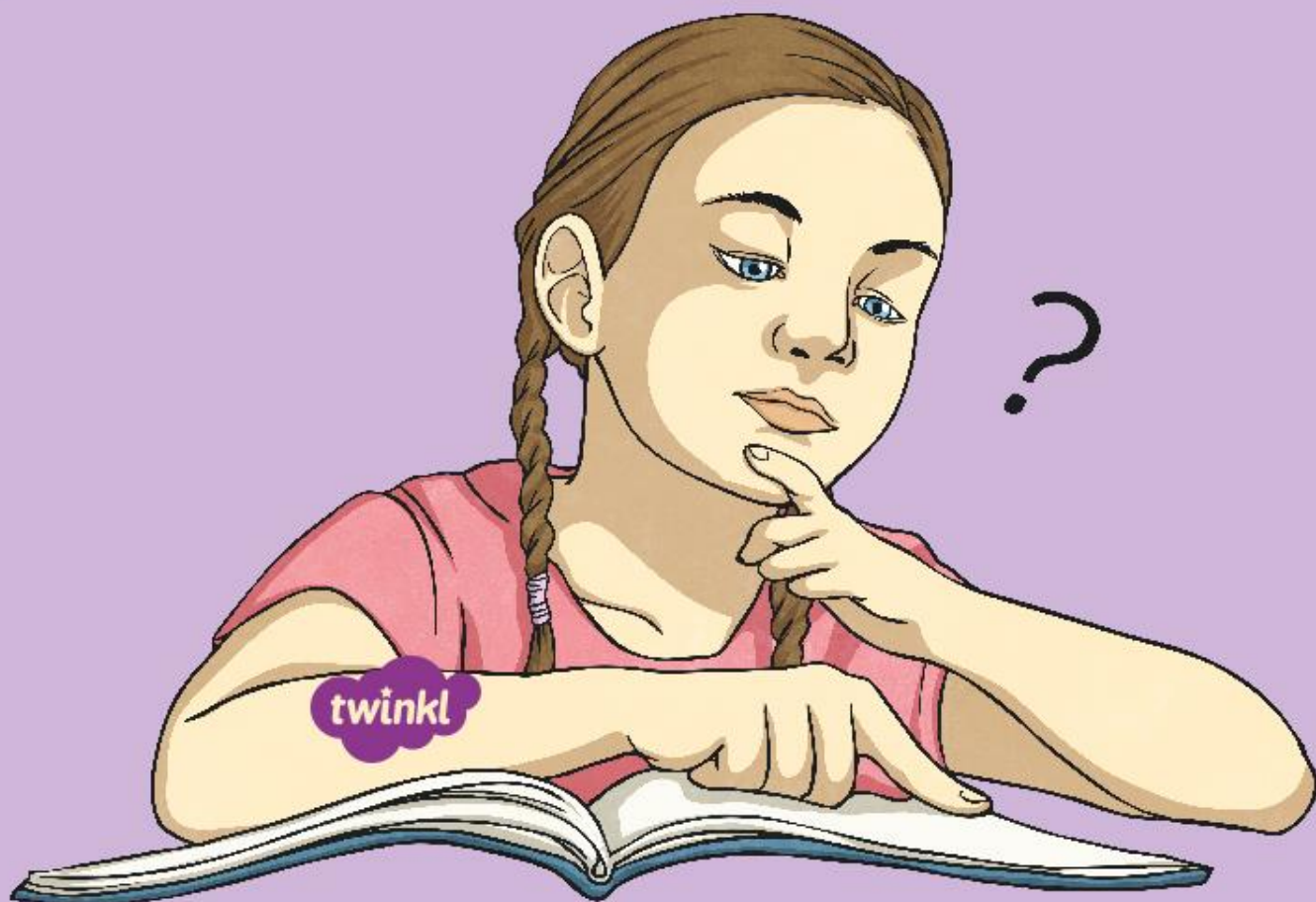


Formal & Informal Language

Warm-up



What Are Formal and Informal Language?

Can you write definitions for 'formal' and 'informal' language?

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.

Do you and your partner agree?



What Are Formal and Informal Language?

Sort the following criteria into formal or informal language conventions:

is clear and to the point

use more contractions and abbreviations (e.g. it's or TV)

has a more serious tone

has a more 'chatty' tone

uses the correct grammar and punctuation

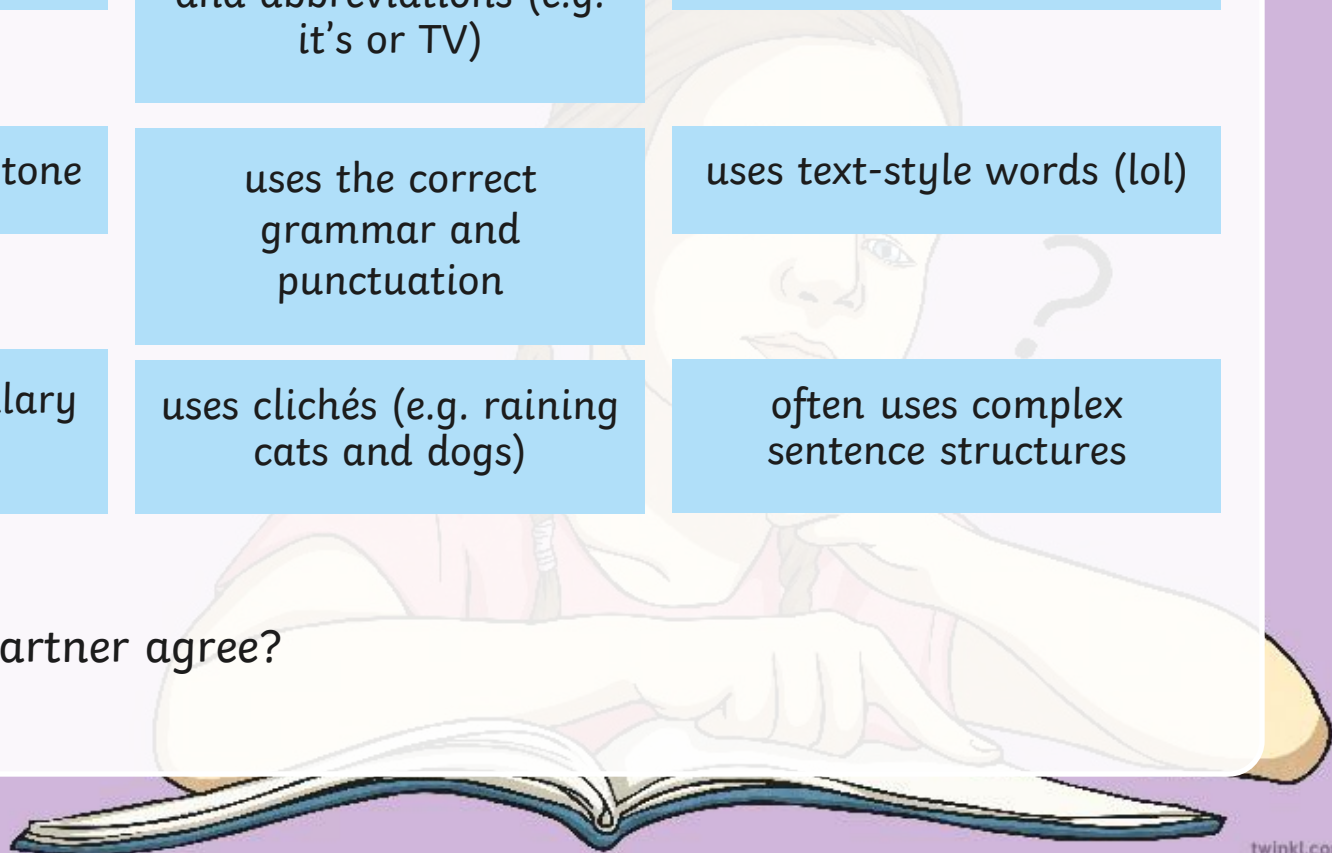
uses text-style words (lol)

uses specific vocabulary for the subject

uses clichés (e.g. raining cats and dogs)

often uses complex sentence structures

Do you and your partner agree?



What Are Formal and Informal Language? Answers

formal

uses specific vocabulary for the subject

uses the correct grammar and punctuation

has a more serious tone

often uses complex sentence structures

informal

use more contractions and abbreviations (e.g. it's or TV)

is clear and to the point

has a more 'chatty' tone

uses clichés (e.g. raining cats and dogs)

uses text-style words (lol)



Formal or Informal

Formal and informal language are more suited to different situations. Can you sort 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

Formal Language

talking to the headteacher
presenting an award
writing a letter of complaint
writing a report

Informal 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



Formal or Informal Vocabulary

Some vocabulary is more formal, whereas other is more informal in tone. Can you match these formal and informal words with the same meanings (synonyms)?

Formal

profession

injustice

sufficient

opportunity

sacrifice

immediately

Informal

now

chance

enough

job

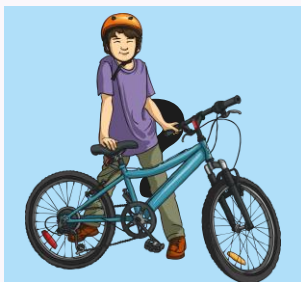
give up

not fair



Your Turn – Formal Vocabulary

Choose a square to reveal a picture. Write a sentence using a formal alternative of the word given:



get better



job



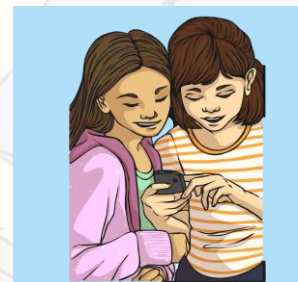
live in



now



enough



speak to

Formal or Informal?

Read the following emails and decide whether they are **formal** or **informal**:

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to inform you of my upset when I opened the lucky dip bag I had recently purchased with my own pocket money.

I was disappointed to find that my favourite toy brand had been replaced with an inadequate copy, which even had pieces missing.

I shall expect to be fully compensated for the distress and inconvenience this experience has caused me and hope that you send a replacement promptly.

Yours sincerely,
Miss F. James

formal

Hi Kerry,

You know the lucky dip bag I bought when we went into town yesterday? Well, you'll never believe what happened when I opened it – there was a broken, copy of the toy instead of the real thing!

I was so shocked and annoyed that I've emailed the company to tell them what I think.

I hope they send me a new one ASAP so I can complete the set.

Was your pack ok? I hope so.

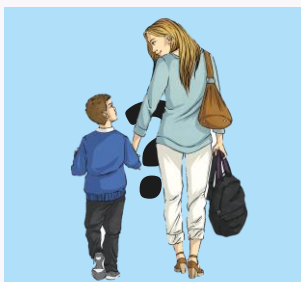
C u soon,
Frankie

informal



Your Turn – Informal Vocabulary

Choose a square to reveal a picture. Write a sentence using an informal alternative of the word given:



require



inform you



refund



purchase



apologise



spectacles

Formal or Informal?

Read these sentences. What do you notice about them?

The teacher demands that you **be present** in PE.

Our King requests that you **attend** at 9am prompt.

If I **were** you, I would try harder in my lessons.

These sentences all use the **subjunctive verb form**, which makes sentences sound more formal.



Quick Quiz 1

Which sentence is written in formal language?

You'll have a great trip!

I guarantee that your experience will be a positive one.

The flight was quite bumpy.



Quick Quiz 2

Change these sentences from informal to formal language:

Please come to see me tomorrow.

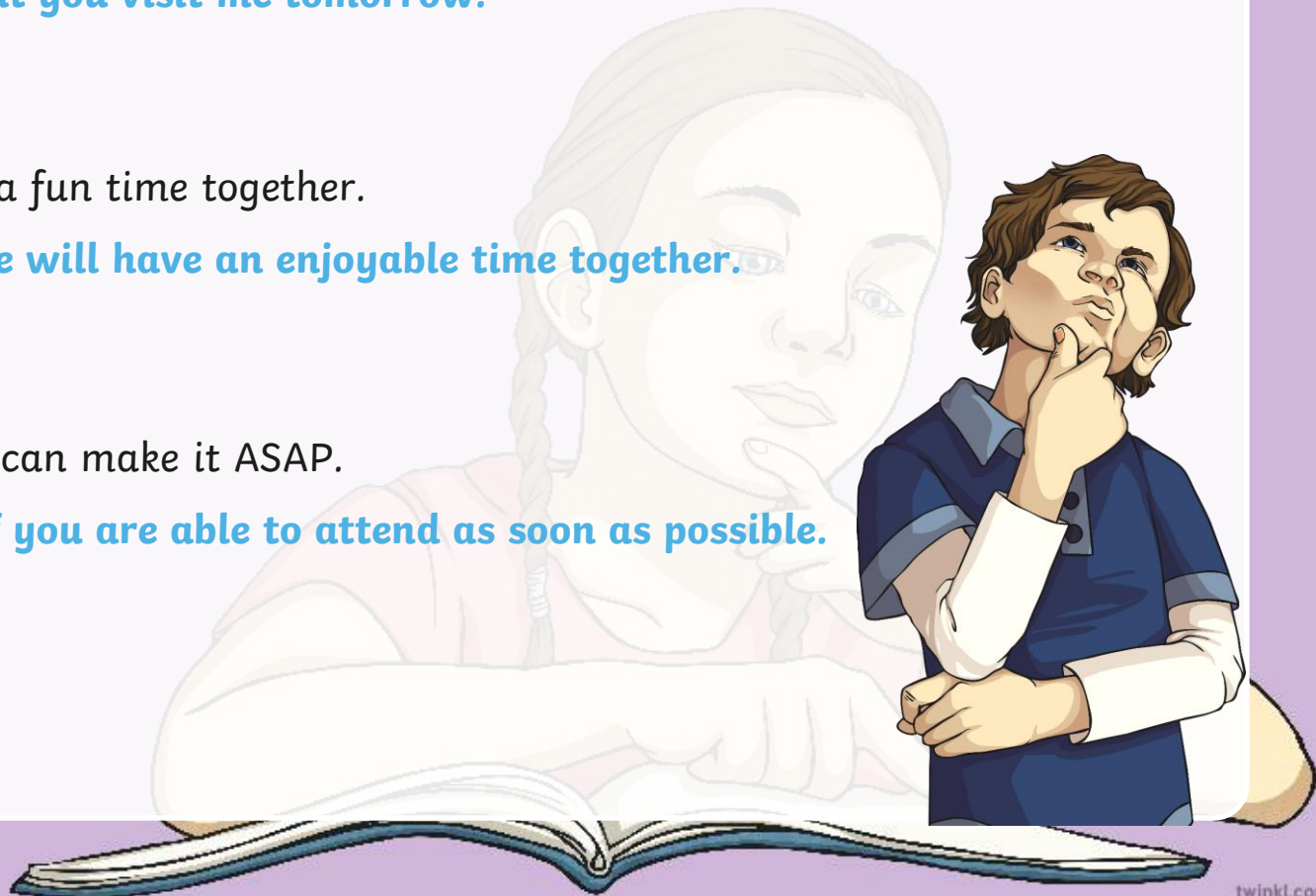
I am requesting that you visit me tomorrow.

I reckon we'll have a fun time together.

I guarantee that we will have an enjoyable time together.

Let me know if you can make it ASAP.

Please inform me if you are able to attend as soon as possible.





twinkl