

Criteria for fiction and non-fiction genres

This is a suggested overview for each genre, giving a list of grammar and punctuation. It is not a definitive list. It will depend on the age group as to what you will include or exclude. For each genre you will work on vocabulary such as prefixes, suffixes, antonyms, synonyms, homonyms, etc.

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|  **Narrative genres** |
| **Narrative text** First or third person Inverted commasPersonificationSimilesMetaphors OnomatopoeiaNoun phrasesDifferent sentence openers (prepositions, adverbs, connectives, “-ing” words, adverbs, “-ed” words, similes)SynonymsAntonymsSpecific nouns (proper)Semicolons to separate two sentencesColons to separate two sentences of equal weightingInformal and formal languageLists of three – adjectives and actionsIndefinite pronounsEmotive language | 1. **Adventure and mystery stories** –past tense
2. **Myths and legends** – past tense
3. **Stories with historical settings** –past tense
4. **Stories set in imaginary worlds** – past or future tense
5. **Stories with issues and dilemmas** – past tense
6. **Flashback** – past and present tense
7. **Traditional fairy story** – past tense
8. **Ghost story** –past tense
9. **Setting description**
10. **Character description**
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| **Non-fiction genres** |
| **Explanation text**Present tense Modal verbsTime connectives Causal connectives Formal language Technical vocabularyThird personRhetorical questionsProper nounsPast tenseActive and passiveRelative clausesColonsSemicolonsParenthesis using hyphens, commas and brackets | **Recount text** **(This includes genres such as newspaper/journalistic writing, biography, autobiography and diary)**Past tenseTime connectives Formal language Third/first person (pronouns) Colons Proper nounsFormal languageAdverbial phrasesPrepositional phrasesSimiles | **Persuasive text** Present tense Past tenseFuture tenseModal verbsImperative verbsCausal connectivesExemplification connectivesSummarising connectivesRhetorical questionsComparative and superlative adjectivesExaggerated languageRepetitionGroups of threeFirst/second/third personIndefinite pronounsGeneralisation/quantifiersEmotive languageGiving statistics Making opinion appear as factFormal languageStatementsConditionals | **Report text** Formal language First/third person Past/present tense Causal connectives Time connectivesAddition-of-ideas connectivesExemplification connectives Comparing-and-contrasting connectivesFuture tense (when offering suggestions)SimilesMetaphorsTechnical languageParenthesis using hyphens, commas and brackets | **Play scripts**Exclamation sentences with exclamation marksColonsStage directionsInformal speechBracketsHyphensShort sentences | **Poetry text** Personification Similes Metaphors Abstract nounsSentence openers (prepositional, adverbs, connectives,”-ing” words, “-ed” words, similes)AdjectivesRepetitionAntonymsSynonymsAlliterationOnomatopoeiaPrepositionsPowerful verbsSpecific nounsCollective nounsExpanded noun phrases | **Discussion text**Present tense Statements Rhetorical questions Causal connectives Additional connectivesResults connectivesOrder-of-sequence connectivesExemplification connectivesComparing-and-contrasting connectivesConditionalsImperative verbs Third personFormal language |
| **Non-chronological report**Third personFormal languagePassive and active sentencesProper nounsSpecific nounsMove from general to specificCommas in a listColonsBullet pointsHyphensPresent tensePast tenseSemicolonsRelative clausesStarting a sentence with the continuous/progressive tense (“-ing”)Rhetorical questionsParenthesis using hyphens, commas and brackets | **Newspaper**Newspaper headlinesSubheadingsReported speechDashes/hyphensPresent tensePast tenseQuotation using inverted commas and colonsFirst/third personTechnical languageProper nounsSpecific nounsFormal languageTime connectives | **Biography**Third personPast tenseProper nounsAbstract nounsInformal languageDifferent types of sentence openersTime connectivesFronted adverbial phrasesRelative clausesPersonificationMetaphorsAlliterationSimilesEmotive languageQuotation | **Diary** Informal languageFirst personTime connectivesPast tensePresent tenseEmotive languageProper nounsSpecific nounsFronted adverbial phrasesRelative clausesPersonificationMetaphorsAlliterationSimilesAbstract nounsInformal languageDifferent types of sentence openers | **Letters** **(What is featured in this genre depends on the genre being taught. For example, if it is to persuade then you would follow the success criteria for a persuasion text)**First personFormal languageInformal languageLayout | **Instructions**Time connectivesImperative verbsPresent tenseSecond personTechnical languageAdverbs to start sentencesColonsBullet pointsFormal languageSimple sentencesCommas to separate listsModal verbsProper nounsParenthesis using hyphens, commas and brackets | **Autobiography**First personPast tenseProper nounsAbstract nounsInformal languageDifferent types of sentence openersTime connectivesFronted adverbial phrasesRelative clausesPersonificationMetaphorsAlliterationSimilesEmotive language |