



FACOLTÀ DI STUDI UMANISTICI
Lingue e Comunicazione

Lingua Inglese 2

LESSON 3

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Unit 2

- What does the expression **text types** makes you think of?


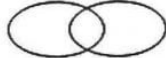
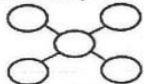
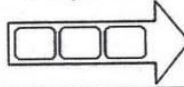
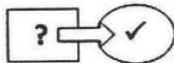
Unit 2

My Mini Anchor Chart

Text Structure

Authors of non-fiction text organize their writing in a way that is helpful to their readers. The way they choose to organize their text is called text structure.

There are five main non-fiction text structures.

Type	Explanation	Key Words
Cause & Effect 	The text shares information about an event and what caused it to occur.	cause, effect, since, then, because, if, when, so
Compare & Contrast 	The text has two or more ideas or topics and the author writes about the similarities and differences.	like, unlike, but both, also, most, similar to, different from
Description 	The text provides a detailed description of the topic of the text.	to begin with, for instance, examples of, features include
Sequence 	The text is written in order of events or chronological order.	first, next, then, finally, before, after, during meanwhile
Problem & Solution 	The text includes information about a problem and possible or attempted solutions.	problem, solution, because, since, the issue is, resolved by

Good readers pay attention to the text structure to help deepen their understanding of the text.

Unit 2

Writers organize texts in different ways/patterns depending on the purpose.

- ✓ Sequence (Chronological order)
- ✓ Spatial organization /Description
- ✓ Question and answer
- ✓ Compare and contrast
- ✓ Problem and solution
- ✓ Cause and effect

Such different organizational ways/patterns are called **chaining strategies**.

What type of grammatical markers are used in such different ways of textual organization?

ORDER AND SEQUENCE

- Events or instructions that happen in order
- A topic sentence that starts a chain of events
- A concluding sentence that describes the final event
- Words such as: “In the beginning,” “Finally,” “First,” “Second,” and “Third.”

The author’s purpose is to narrate a process or a story. Therefore, **fiction**, **biographies** and **how-to books** often follow order and sequence text structures. In biographies, authors typically write about a person’s life from birth to death (or present day), including each event in the order it occurred within their life.

Similarly, **How-To books** (such as cookbooks with recipes) need to use sequence and order. The author aims to guide the reader from point A to point B.

SPATIAL ORGANIZATION/DESCRIPTION

- A topic sentence that introduces a main theme or topic
- Sentences that describe that main theme or topic
- Descriptive words that help the reader visualize the topic

The author's purpose is to teach the reader about a specific topic. Descriptive text is often found in books about nature and animals. The author is describing facts about a specific topic. They give details so the reader can visualize and learn from the text.

COMPARE AND CONTRAST

Compare and Contrast is also one of the most common text structures. Authors use Compare and Contrast to highlight the similarities and differences between two (or more) subjects.

Spot Compare and Contrast by noticing:

- A topic sentence that compares two topics or subjects
- Sentences that alternate describing two different subjects
- Keywords such as “Similarly,” “In contrast,” and “Both”

You can notice Compare and Contrast in many books, especially informational books about animals or writing about literature.

PROBLEM AND SOLUTION

Authors use “Problem & Solution” when they want to describe a problem and possible solutions.

Spot Problem & Solution structures by noticing:

- A topic sentence that introduces a problem
- Sentences that suggest possible solutions below
- Words such as “Problem,” “Solve,” “Therefore,” “So,” and “Then.”

As adults, we are constantly consuming “problem and solution” text structures. It is a common structure for **persuasive writing**. Also, **texts about the environment and communities** where the author highlights local or world issues. In those texts, authors often explain the issue at hand (problem) and how people are trying to solve those issues (solution).

CAUSE AND EFFECT

A cause and effect structure uses the pattern of “If... Then...” If ABC happens, then XYZ will happen. In cause and effect, the author intends to explain a primary event and the events that follow it.

You can spot “cause and effect” structures by noticing:

- A main event
- Additional events that happened afterward as a result of the main event
- Words such as “because,” “since,” and “as a result of”

Cause and effect text structures can be found in various kinds of nonfiction writing: Biographies; Instructions; Historical nonfiction; Scientific nonfiction; Persuasive writing.

Werlich's text types (1983)

Narrative, descriptive, expository, argumentative and instructive

Werlich's typology: extralinguistic parameters influence the linguistic ones (purpose, addressee, context)

- ✓ Focus on factual phenomena and relations in space (descriptive),
- ✓ Focus on factual phenomena and relations in time (narrative),
- ✓ Chooses constituent elements manifested in a term or a mental construct manifested in a text (expository),
- ✓ Finds purpose relations between concepts of phenomena (argumentative)
- ✓ Tells X what to do (instructive).

Narrative text types

- The most universal type. The purpose is to entertain, to tell a story, or to provide a literary experience.
- Narrative texts have to do with real-world events and time. They may be fictional (fairy tales, novels) or nonfictional (newspaper report). They are characterised by a sequencing of events expressed by dynamic verbs and by adverbials such as “and then”, “first”, “second”, “third”
- Example: First we packed our bags and then we called a taxi. After that we... etc.

Narrative text types

Narrative texts **present connected events in order to tell a good story**. Whether it's a narrative essay, a biography, a novel or a piece of news, a narrative unites distinct events by concepts or plot. Common types of narratives normally contain a beginning, middle, and an end.

ORIENTATION, COMPLICATION, RESOLUTION,
CODA (optional – lesson from the story)

Narrative text types

- *Ex. My itinerary was a 3 day one, during the peak of summer in Mid July. The 1st night I stayed in Pisa, from memory the last train from Pisa central to Monterosso was at 9.30pm and to be conservative I did not think I would arrive in time to make the train. (JD Chronicles)*
- Historic/temporal factual or conceptual events, action-recording sentences.
- Events and participants are chronologically portrayed through temporal circumstances or participant roles.

Narrative text types

Language Features of Narrative Text

- – Past tense (killed, drank, etc)
- Adverb of time (Once upon a time, one day, etc)
- Time conjunction (when, then, suddenly, etc)
- Specific character. The character of the story is specific, not general. (Cinderella, Snow White, A famous actor, etc)
- Action verbs. A verb that shows an action. (killed, dug, walked, etc)
- Direct speech. It is to make the story lively. (Snow White said, "My name is Snow White"). Direct speech uses present tense.

Narrative text types

- Stories, events or actions have their inherent chronological order, usually aimed at presenting facts. This story telling involves the participation of elements such as character, characterization, setting, plot, conflict and theme.
- Narrative texts are usually organized in terms of time.
- Typical language components of narrative texts are time and space indicators, copular sentences (*be, seem, appear, look, ecc*) presentatives (*There is/there are*), sequence of temporarily ordered relative clauses, and stative and intransitive verbs.

- Narration is often agent-oriented. It concentrates on the doer of the stories.
- Narration refers to the development of the story through the use of predicate verbs such as *start* and *change*. Facts develop along an itinerary: *we spotted, we did not, we continued, we came across*, etc. Adverbials of place but especially of time are frequent.
- 1st ps + simple past.
- From positions and directions in space, to technical objective descriptions

- *By means of a judicious mixture of concessions and tax relief, Eleonora brought the country under control within a few months. Her popularity increased when, in 1392, she published the Carta de Logu, a written constitution ... (Insight Guide 2001: 49)*
- *In 1478 yet another Sardinian dream of maintaining the island's independence was shattered near the little town of Macomer, which lies some 15 km (810 miles) further southwards. (ibid.: 226)*

Descriptive text types

- Descriptive texts are concerned with the location of persons and things in space. Attributes of people, animals, items or places, or to provide a detailed, neutral presentation of a literary situation.
- They will tell us what lies to the right or left, in the background or foreground, or they will provide background information which, perhaps, sets the stage for narration.
- State or positional verbs plus adverbial expressions are employed in descriptions

Examples: 1) The operation panel is located on the right-hand side at the rear; 2) New Orleans lies on the Mississippi.

Descriptive text types

- Analysis of places, people and relations (subject matter), by the use of spatial chaining strategies indicated by spatial positions in the sentence.
- Spatial circumstances occupy the theme position
- Descriptions range from technical, objective neutral properties to, and more frequently, attitudinal and evaluative/hyperbolic, metaphorical, comparative and evocative viewpoints
- Subjective impressions of relations and qualities, impressionistic descriptions. Adverbials of place to reinforce the style.

Descriptive text types

- As an example, descriptions of objects tend to be based around the component parts, description of places seem often to follow a particular visual orientation.
- Basic components of description are specifying, classifying and defining.
- Moreover, much description in Western tradition is based on relating what is being described with something else.
- Example of descriptive texts are brochures, descriptions of animals, description of scientific and technical concepts.

- My Uber driver looked like a deflating airbag and sounded like talk radio on repeat.
- The old man was bent into a capital C, his head leaning so far forward that his beard nearly touched his knobby knees.
- The painting was a field of flowers, blues and yellows atop deep green stems that seemed to call the viewer in to play.
- My dog's fur felt like silk against my skin and her black coloring shone, absorbing the sunlight and reflecting it back like a pure, dark mirror.
- The sunset filled the sky with a deep red flame, setting the clouds ablaze.
- The waves rolled along the shore in a graceful, gentle rhythm, as if dancing with the land.
- Winter hit like a welterweight that year, a jabbing cold you thought you could stand until the wind rose up and dropped you to the canvas.

- In this excerpt from *Jamaica Inn* by [Daphne du Maurier](#), notice the writer's choice of adjectives, adverbs, and verbs. *Granite. Mizzling*. Du Maurier's choice of words allows the reader to almost feel the weather occurring on the page.
- "It was a cold grey day in late November. The weather had changed overnight, when a backing wind brought a granite sky and a mizzling rain with it, and although it was now only a little after two o'clock in the afternoon the pallor of a winter evening seemed to have closed upon the hills, cloaking them in mist."

- *Following Via Cagliari, 3 km south of Oristano is the suburb of Santa Giusta, named for a local martyr and her church, set in a fine position on a low hill, in front of a little park incongruously lit by street lamps from a Jetson cartoon. (2002: 126)*
- *Dominating a high point in the centre of Santa Giusta, virtually a satellite of Oristano just 3km south on the Stagno di Santa Giusta lagoon, is the proud basilica of the same name. (Lonely Planet 2003: 177)*
- *Three kilometres south of Oristano, eucalyptus woods round the Stagno di Santa Giusta provide shade for picnics and birdwatchers (Rough Guide 2002: 175)*

- «This morning at 9am, a school bus collided with a car at the intersection of Jones and Heard streets. There were no injuries on the school bus, but medical personnel performed checks on each student and the driver before those students were transported to their schools».

1 „In Italy you won't find what you find in Sardinia and in Sardinia you won't find what you find in Italy“ that wrote the natural scientist and Jesuit monk Francesco Cetti during a visit at the end of the 18th century . ARGUMENTATIVE

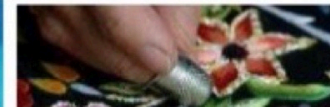
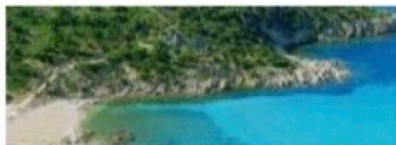
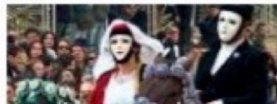
5 Sardinia, that means respect for the traditions which are deeply laid down in the minds of the people and they are living them day by day. This means passionate resistance against every invasion as a result of an ancient and constant fight against the ambitious Mediterranean Empires who wanted to enlarge their territories. During the course of the history the Sardinians had only few contact with the sea. Their history and their activities developed in the interior part of the country where they retired in order to escape from the coasts that were occupied by the invaders and conquerors. There they developed a civilisation which is firmly connected with the mountains and plains as well as the meadows. The origins of the Sardinian economy lay in the animal breeding (especially sheep) and agriculture. NARRATIVE

15 Sardinia has a lot to offer! Most peoples visit the second biggest island in the Mediterranean sea because of it's 1.850 km long coast line and the crystal clear seawater that gleams in all facets of green, blue and turquoise. In fact, the water around Sardinia is among the cleanest in whole Mediterranean basin. DESCRIPTIVE

20 On the other hand there is a lot of history to discover: thousands of years old archaeological sites are testimonies of the strategic and geographic importance of Sardinia and the peoples who settled on it. Starting with the prehistoric tombs caved in the rocks – Domus de Janas, followed by the “nuraghe” buildings which are unique in Sardinia and the most monumental and astonishing buildings of the ancient history after the pyramids – giant tombs, sacred wells continuing with Phoenician-Punic-Roman trade centres and commercial cities – Paleo-Christian churches, Medieval abundance and richness and the Spanish occupation as well as the modern live of today. DESCRIPTIVE

25 Centuries old traditions, wild, uncontaminated nature, intact landscapes give Sardinia a strong taste of originality – get enchanted by the magic of the island!

Also discover the interior of the country the landscapes where olive trees grow on granite rocks and longhair sheep graze the highland meadows around the villages of the mountains.



Instructive text type

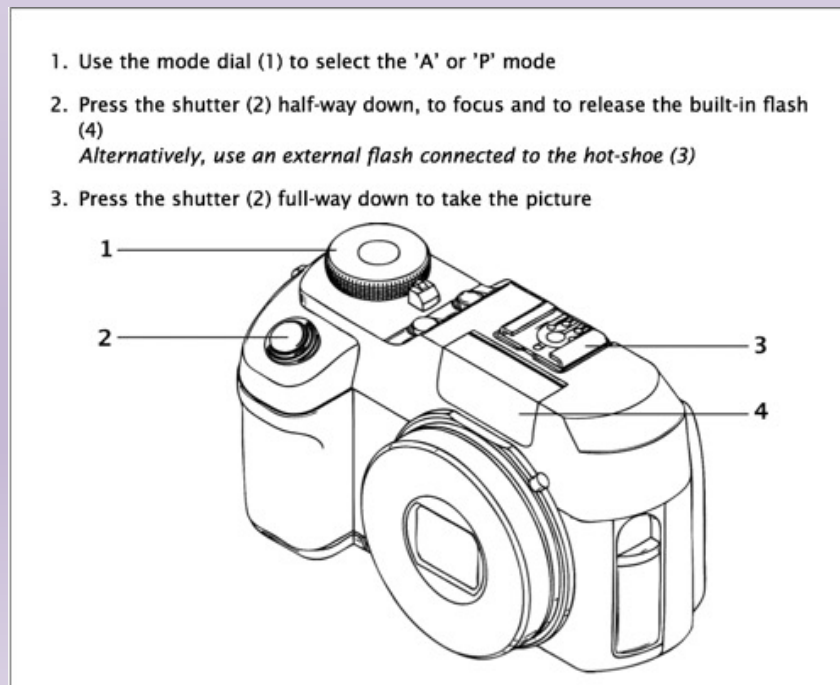
- Stages to be followed by the reader, constructed through sequential chaining strategies of temporal circumstances or processes. People and objects are related through the planning of future behaviour: norms, laws, but also recipes (Bondi 1999: 16).
- The reader is expected to follow the steps: *“Start out at the FORK WHERE THE SURFACED ROAD ENDS by following the gravel track to the right. (...) Cross the bridge, go up the opposite embankment for a few paces. And turn right at the junction. Now follow ...”* (Flower Landscapes 2001: 70)

Instructive text type

- These texts are usually written in attempts to tell the reader what to do in a clearly specified situation, usually referring to future activities. The author of an instructive text assumes the reader knows very well what he wants to do, but needs to be told how to do it. **A RECIPE** is a typical example. Procedural discourse usually consists of a set of ordered steps marked by enumerative or temporal markers.
- The author's style and choice of words are usually unemotional, objective and the style is simple, straightforward and aimed at precision. Syntax is dominated by imperatives and sentences in the passive voice

Instructive text type

- Good instructive texts are written in a simple, logical style and include helpful features such as **diagrams, graphs, charts, bullet points and numbered headings**. An example of an instructive text is an instruction manual.



Instructive text type

- Recipes, instructions or prescriptions

“Bring your binoculars: the lagoons are flamingo heaven ... you’ll find blinds where you can watch them ...” (Cadogan Guide 2003: 157)

«Wash hands with soap and water. After washing basil and tomatoes, blot them dry with clean paper towel. Using a clean cutting board, cut tomatoes into quarters».

- An evident future behaviour, an action-demanding sentence, constructed through sequential chaining strategies of temporal circumstances or processes. The reader is expected to follow the steps, through the use of the imperative form, e.g., *Trust me, always remember*, the passive voice and modal verbs.
- *Would* is used to give advice and when history is uncertain; *must* shows evaluation, e.g. “*must be painful*”; *will* is employed when giving recommendations and introducing the following site on the itinerary, as in “*you will need to spend at least three good hours to see...*”, “*you will also see ...*”.

«Therapy should be initiated by a physician experienced in the management of HIV infection».

«If necessary the dose can be decreased by any amount (including stopping the infusion) for the management of adverse reactions. Approximately 75% of patients who respond satisfactorily to treatment require a dose of $\leq 9.6 \mu\text{g}/\text{day}$ ».

(drug administration/posology)

- *If clauses* are employed with the same purpose: persuasion. Directions are followed on the authority of practical validity
- The point of view may be subjective, as in instructions, or objective, as in directions and regulations. It is expressed through the 1st person or the 2nd person

Main difference

- Narrative, descriptive and instructive are all centred around real-world events and things.
- In contrast, expository and argumentative texts are cognitively oriented, as they are concerned with explanation and persuasion, which are both mental processes.

Argumentative text type

- Intended to convince or persuade the reader of a certain point of view, or to understand the author's reasons for holding certain views on a matter under discussion.
- Demonstration brochures, government speeches, debates, face-to-face, ecc.
- The author will analyse the problem and present his/her opinion, along with the argument that led to that opinion. The language used will reflect his/her personal views on the subject matter. Not neutral and may include irony and sarcasm, as well as emotional terminology.
- Classical template: introduction, explanation, outline of the argument, proof, refutation and conclusion.

Argumentative text type

- Present, through the use of counter-argument patterns, and of a conjunctive theme:

*“Summer **would be the best time** to see Rome, when the temperature is at an average 25°C and the weather is calmer too. **But** that is also during the tourism peak season so plan your trip early, especially the accommodation part.” (vkeong)*

- Attitudes sustained in relation with their opposites.
- Recommendation is often introduced by expressions such as *It is advisable, would be the best time*

- *“Dripping with washing strung across the balconies, many of the high blocks are run-down and don’t admit much light, though the lack of fuss or traffic makes for an agreeable stroll through the long alleys ...” (2002: 73)*
- *“Although Poetto may do for a morning dip or an evening out, it probably won’t meet your requirements for the perfect beach – and you don’t need to go very far from Cagliari to find something nearer the mark.” (ibid.: 94)*

- Typical expressions are opinion verbs, or expressions of intention, decision, expectations and beliefs. Expectations may not be fulfilled:

*“But **honestly** most of the food did not really suit our tastebuds, and I am not a drinker so I wasn’t able to appreciate their wine too. So, only the spicy roast pork managed to leave us with a memorable taste.” (vkeong, 2010, Rome).*

- Negative sentences and contrastive expressions

- THE AUTHOR IS TRYING TO PERSUADE THE READER TO BELIEVE A CERTAIN OPINION
- CLAIM: THE POSITION THE AUTHOR IS TRYING TO GET YOU TO ACCEPT
- EVIDENCE: FACTS AND EXAMPLE THE AUTHORS GIVE TO SUPPORT THEIR CLAIM, TRYING TO CONVINCE THE READER

TYPICAL FEATURES:

- ✓ Appeal to emotions
- ✓ Call to action
- ✓ Vivid language
- ✓ Addresses the reader directly

Argumentative text type

Oliver Green 10EZ

Argumentative Essay

Over the last few years there have been massive debates and arguments about whether or not there should be a limit on immigration to the U.K. Before you can make up your mind you should consider opinions on both sides of the argument. It is very difficult to make a choice that will keep both sides happy, and it is very difficult to make a choice for or against. Politicians and the public have views on why there should be a limit on immigration to the U.K. What are they?

There are a number of key issues to think about, for example over population. There have been estimates that by the year 2081 the U.K may have a population of over 108 million people. At the moment there are about 65 million people living in this country. Houses are being built everywhere to cope with the ever increasing immigration rates. Building houses ruins the countryside and also leads to more pollution and more government money being spent on resources that are running out etc.

If the amount of people immigrating to the U.K each year was limited, building houses would not be half the problem it will be if immigration isn't sorted out. If there was a limit on immigration to the U.K the number of houses being built would shrink considerably.

A second big issue is illegal immigrants and asylum seekers. If there was a limit to immigration into the U.K it may remove a huge number of illegal immigrants

ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY

Argumentative essay's purpose is to convince the readers to believe in what the author's believes with. Facts and logics should be given and should form the entire side of the argument but the main voice should have a certain position. Expert opinion and great reasoning are two of the skills that this type of essay will show.

Examples of Argumentative Essays

- A review on a policy, an order or a law
- A call to action about a certain scenario that occurred

Expository text type

- When we read fiction novels, we are taking in narrative text. This type of text tells a story and generally uses a lot of emotion. The opposite of this is **expository text**, which exists **to provide facts in a way that is educational and purposeful**.
- The text is fact-based with the purpose of **exposing the truth through a reliable source**. True and deliberate expository text will focus on **educating its reader**. Other descriptors of exposition are **clear, concise, and organized writing**. Expository text **gets to the point quickly and efficiently**.

Expository text type

- Expository or explanatory texts are written in attempts at **analyzing, explaining, describing and presenting facts, events and processes that may be complicated.**
- Frequently called on in **learning environments** where students are expected to listen, speak, read and write new concepts.
- Examples may be TEXTBOOKS, ENCYCLOPEDIAS, BROCHURES, BIOGRAPHIES, LAB PROCEDURES, GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS, ARTICLES. Their structures determined by **logical coherence**, but aspects of time and space may be also quite important, depending on the subject matter.
- An expository text should be **fairly detailed and precise** in order to convey accurate and objective information. **The language used is neutral, objective and analytical. No emotionally loaded terms and subjective comments.**

Expository text type

- Other authors find these text types can also be subjective (essay) or objective (summary, explication, definition). They may be analytical (starting from a concept and then characterizing its parts; e.g. definitions) or synthetic (recounting characteristics and ending with an appropriate concept or conclusion; e.g. summaries).
- They are characterized by **state verbs and epistemic modals** (*Pop music has a strong rhythmic beat; Texts may consist of one or more sentences*) or **by verbs indicating typical activities or qualities** (*fruitflies feed on yeast*)

Expository text type

- Generic concepts are dealt with, as well as the definition or explanation, along various degrees of subjectiveness (through characterisation specified by participant roles)
- Ideas and impressions are summarised from constituent elements of concepts, ideas or impressions, or analysed into their constituent elements
- The writer presentation of statement & stance aims at persuading the reader and generate consensus
- Verbs are often in the present tense, passive voice and impersonal forms

Expository text type

- Expository texts typically follow one of five formats:

cause and effect,

compare and contrast,

description,

problem and solution,

sequence.

Cause and Effect Essay Example

It seems like every little girl dreams of becoming a model. They want to be thin and pretty like the models they see on television and in magazines. Often the desire becomes an obsession and young girls see "thinness" as being a needed characteristic. For most girls, the teenage years are spent trying to acquire this look. Females are trying diets and are exercising like it is a competition to see who can lose the most weight the quickest. The obsession of many young girls over their appearance or weight has led to a growing number of people who have developed an eating disorder to try to deal with their lack of self-esteem or other related problems.

Eating disorders are a serious health problem. Personal Counseling & Resources says that eating disorders "are characterized by a focus on body shape, weight, fat, food, and perfectionism and by feelings of powerlessness and low self-esteem." Three of the most common eating disorders are anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, and binge eating or compulsive eating disorder. According to Anorexia Nervosa and Related Eating Disorders, a person with anorexia "refuses to maintain normal body weight for age and height" and "weighs 85 percent or less than what is what is expected for age and height." A person diagnosed with bulimia has several ways of getting rid of the calories such as binge eating, vomiting, laxative misuse, exercising, or fasting. The person might have a normal weight for their age and height unless anorexia is present. The signs of a compulsive eater include eating meals frequently, rapidly, and secretly. This person might also snack and nibble all day long. The compulsive eater tends to have a history of diet failures and may be depressed or obese (Anred.com).

There are many reasons that can contribute to the cause of eating disorders. One of the main reasons seems to be the obsession over every little pound a person is wearing. Sometimes low self-esteem or depression from any number of causes can usher in the eating disorder. Other times compulsive exercising can help shed the pounds but leave the enthused unhealthy looking.

There are other possible causes to this widely known health problem. The media bestows a great deal of beauty and thinness on television and magazines that are viewed by many people daily. Everyone has the desire to look like the actors and actresses do but, in reality, it just will not happen for most of us. Abuse, whether it be physical, emotional, or sexual, can also contribute to the development of an eating disorder (Something-Fishy.com). Such abuse to victims can leave them with a lack of trust and low self-esteem. An unfavorable relationship a person has with others is also a contributing factor to disordered eating habits. The world is so competitive that any mention from parents, siblings, peers, significant others, or co-workers about a person's weight or appearance can lead to the onset of an eating disorder.

There really is no single reason that a person acquires an eating disorder. Many factors are considered when making a diagnosis for a person with this problem. Causes like the ones mentioned above play such an important role in eating disorders. Is it really so important that in order to look like the super models people are willing to give up food and starve themselves to death for a little satisfaction on the outside? The look of a person on the inside is what really matters.

TEXT TYPES	NARRATIVE TEXTS	DESCRIPTIVE TEXTS	EXPOSITORY TEXTS	ARGUMENTATIVE TEXTS	DIRECTIVE TEXTS
PURPOSE	THEY TELL A STORY	THEY DESCRIBE A PLACE, PERSON OR THING	THEY INFORM, ANALYZE, EXPLAIN OR GIVE DETAILS ABOUT A TOPIC	THEY GIVE REASONS FOR A POINT OF VIEW TO TRY TO CONVINCE OTHERS OF IT	THEY GIVE INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO MAKE OR DO SOMETHING
CHARACTERISTICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TEXTS MAY BE FICTIONAL (NOVELS, TALES...) OR NON-FICTIONAL (NEWSPAPER REPORTS, ROUTINES...) - THEY ARE CHARACTERISED BY A SEQUENCING OF EVENTS EXPRESSED BY DYNAMIC VERBS AND LINKING WORDS SUCH AS "FIRST", "AND THEN", "LATER"... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TEXTS SHOW RATHER THAN TELL THE READER WHAT SOMETHING OR SOMEONE IS LIKE - THEY USE MANY ADJECTIVES AND NOUNS - THEY ARE NORMALLY WRITTEN IN THE PRESENT OR PAST TENSES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - THEY CAN GIVE HISTORICAL, SCIENTIFIC OR ECONOMIC INFORMATION - THE VOCABULARY IS PRECISE AND SPECIFIC TO THE SUBJECT - THEY ARE NORMALLY WRITTEN IN THE PRESENT OR PAST TENSES - THEY MAY INCLUDE ILLUSTRATIONS, TABLES, GRAPHS... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TEXTS BEGIN WITH A SENTENCE THAT GIVES A POINT OF VIEW ON A TOPIC - THEY LIST ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST, GIVING REASONS AND EVIDENCE FOR DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW - TEXTS END WITH A CONCLUSION WHICH MIGHT SUM UP BOTH SIDES OR RECOMMEND ONE POINT OF VIEW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TEXTS BEGIN WITH A STATEMENT OF GOAL (IT CAN BE THE TITLE) - THEY LIST MATERIALS NEEDED IN ORDER OF USE AND GIVE A SERIES OF STEPS (INSTRUCTIONS) IN ORDER - EACH INSTRUCTION BEGINS WITH A VERB IN THE PRESENT TENSE OR IMPERATIVE
EXAMPLES	NOVELS SHORT STORIES NARRATIONS	LANDSCAPE/PEOPLE DESCRIPTIONS	ESSAYS TEXT BOOKS LECTURES	OPINION ARTICLES DEBATES	RECIPES INSTRUCTIONS MANUALS

Text types

- Narrative, descriptive and instructive texts have grammatical forms associated with them.
- They are all centred around real-world events and things.
- In contrast, expository and argumentative texts are cognitively oriented, as they are concerned with explanation and persuasion, which are both mental processes.

Few texts are pure realizations of a single type:

- Advertisements may be both argumentative/persuasive (this is good because...) and instructive/exhortative (So buy now!)
- Expository texts can be neutral or contain evaluative elements (reviews, references, letters to the editor...)
- Laws regulate some aspects of society, leading the behaviour of its members, but also inform on these aspects (they are both instructive and expository)

Source: Gramley, S., Pätzold, K.M., *A Survey of Modern English*, London, Routledge, 1992

POST CARD

PLACE A

PLACE A

PLACE A

PLACE A

PLACE A

We're having a brilliant time in Scotland. You get such a feeling of space. The hills seem to go on forever. The only trouble is the weather. It hasn't stopped raining since we arrived!

2. You should not park where you see these signs and markings: 'No Parking', 'Clearway', double yellow lines beside the kerb, double white lines in the middle of the road.

3. Visit Rome, capital of Italy and ancient capital of the Roman Empire, which is blessed with splendid ruins, delightful markets and intriguing narrow streets that beckon the adventurous explorer.

4. This car has an aluminium body to resist rust and bumper shields that can absorb an impact of up to 7 mph without distortion.



Which text type is it?

- First we packed our bags and then we called a taxi. After that we... etc.
- New Orleans lies on the Mississippi.
- Would you hand me the paper?
- I wonder what the paper says about the weather
- Pop music has a strong rhythmic beat
- Texts may consist of one or more sentences

2) Most artists are very nervous of scientific analysis. They feel it destroys something about the human aspect of creativity. [...] Some fear that too much analysis will only break the spell. Likewise, most scientists see the creative arts as an entirely subjective development that long ago left science to tread the long road to objective truth alone. Whole books have been written about this bifurcation, but here I want to talk about some interesting points of contact between art and science that are facilitated by the growth in our....

3) Yes, I have returned to this arcaded city, unwisely, it may be. I rented a place in one of the little alleyways hard by the Duomo, I shall not say which one, for reasons that are not entirely clear to me, although I confess I worry intermittently about the possibility of a visit from the police. It is not much, my bolt-hole, a couple of rooms, lowceilinged, dank; the windows are so narrow and dirty I have to keep a table lamp burning all day for fear of falling over something in the half dark.

(Excerpt from Brown by John Banville)

4) The geography of the Aran Islands is very simple, yet it may need a word to itself. There are three islands: Aranmor, the north island, about nine miles long; Inishmaan, the middle island, [...] nearly round in form; and the south island, Inishere – in Irish, east island, – like the middle island but slightly smaller. They lie about thirty miles from Galway, up the centre of the bay, but they are not far from the cliffs of County Clare, on the south, or the corner of Connemara on the north.

5) Acanthus A thistle-like plant (common to the warm Mediterranean region) whose narrow and pointed-lobed leaves, when stylized, form the characteristic decoration of the Corinthian and Composite Orders of columns.

6) President George W. Bush has told us that the question of whether to withdraw from Iraq is one that his successors will have to deal with – not him. I don't think so. Bush is not going to have that luxury of passing Iraq along. You see, the insurgency in Iraq is in its “last throes” – just like Dick Cheney said. Unfortunately, it's being replaced by anarchy in many neighborhoods – not democracy. And I don't believe the American people will put up with two and half more years of babysitting anarchy instead of midwifing democracy.

The dancers were trickling away on to the touchlines of the long dance-floor. The walls were decorated with scenes from the remoter past, portrayed in what was no doubt an advanced style, so that in the one nearest Dixon, for example, some lack of perspective or similar commodity made a phalanx of dwarf infantrymen (Spartan? Macedonian? Roman?) seem to be falling from the skies upon their much larger barbarian adversaries (Persian? Iranian? Carthaginian?) who, unaware of this danger overhead, gazed threateningly into the middle distance.

Lowering his eyes from these memorials, he caught sight of Michie talking and laughing with his girl. She had the kind of water-gypsy face that affected him uncomfortably.

(Lucky Jim by Kingsley Amis)