

Characteristics of Expository Text

Expository text is a type of informational text that provides factual information about a topic using a clear, non-narrative organizational structure with a major topic and supporting information.

- 📖 Expository texts can include topics such as historical, scientific or economic information.
- 📖 Information is presented with a clear organizational [text structure](#) which includes but is not limited to: description, chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution.
- 📖 The language in expository text is precise, specific to the subject, and includes domain specific vocabulary to explain concepts and information.
- 📖 Expository text often includes organizational tools such as table of contents, headings, index, glossary, pronunciation guide, appendices.
- 📖 Includes text features that support or enhance the text such as photographs, illustrations, captions, charts, diagrams, tables, graphs, and timelines.
- 📖 Examples of expository text may include: trade books, articles, reports, textbooks, interviews, and essays.

Concept Map Expository Text

Expository Text



What are the characteristics of expository text?

Purpose

Expository text is written to provide information about a topic, including a historical or scientific topic.

Language

Precise, focused on the subject, uses domain specific vocabulary, rather than figurative language.

Format

Expository text is often written in paragraphs. Examples of expository text may include: trade books, articles, reports, textbooks, interviews, and essays.

Adapted from:

Fountas, I.C. & Pinnell, G.S. (2012). *Genre study: Teaching with fiction and nonfiction books*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.