

Shurdington Primary School – Text Type Success Criteria

To Inform: Biography

Purpose: To give an account of someone's life.

Generic text structure:

- Clear beginning, middle and end.
- A strong opening to hook the reader.
- An account of the events that took place, in chronological order.
- Time sentence signposts for coherence that become more complex as children get older. E.g. First, next, then progressing to more complex fronted adverbials.
- Some additional detail about the events.
- Early life, family, home and influences help the audience to understand the person.
- Use relevant images and caption for interest.
- Concludes with what the person is doing now, or how they are/will be remembered.

	Progression of skills	Suggested layout
Year 3	• Attention grabbing introduction that summarises the main events of the person's life and makes the audience	Introduction • Which clearly states: who? What? When? Where? Why?

	want to read on. May include who, what, where, when, why. • Written in the past tense • First person • More complex adverbials of time e.g. much later, shortly after that • Chronological order • Use of paragraphs or subheadings to organise writing	Main body • Different paragraphs in time order. • Some elaboration Conclusion • What did you think about the event? • What was your favourite part? • Would you like to go again? Why?
Year 4	As above plus: • Include quotes from the person themselves or other key people.	
Year 5	As above plus: • Higher level adverbials of time • Cause and effect connectives e.g. consequently, as a result • Elaborate on events so the reader is able to visualise the experience.	Introduction • Which clearly states: who? What? When? Where? Why? Main body • Different paragraphs in time order which elaborate on events, so the reader is able to visualise the experience.
Year 6	• Create cohesion by referencing events to persons character. E.g. Dr Barnardo	

	being a spoilt child, become a philanthropist.	Conclusion • A paragraph of reflection: What did you think about the event? What was your favourite part? Would you like to go again? Why?
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