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| What is an instructional text? Instructional texts include recipes, directions and instructions for playing games or building models. The aim of an instruction text is to be clear and concise, rather than descriptive. **1)** The title states the goal to be achieved (e.g. How to build a model of a dinosaur*).* **2)** This is followed by a list of the materials needed. **3)** The steps that need to be taken are then given in the correct order.**4)** Numbers or bullet points are often used. **5)** Sentences often start with imperative/’bossy’ verbs (e.g. **Glue**the pieces together). **6)** Sequencing connectives are used (e.g. first*,*then*,*finally).**7)** The text often has photographs or diagrams. |
| ParentsGive your child some instructions to follow and discuss with him/her how effective they are e.g. making a cup of tea, putting a t-shirt on, peeling a banana… Once your child can follow these instructions, omit some important part e.g. when telling your child to make a cup of tea, ‘forget’ to tell him or her to boil the water. Discuss. This helps them to understand the importance of clear and comprehensive instructions.Then, it is your child’s turn to give you instructions. You can make this activity quite fun. For example if your child is directing you on how to make a cup of tea and he/she tells you to put sugar, pretend you are going to put the whole packet. This will show him/her that instructions need to be specific. If they forget to tell you to use a spoon, pretend you are going to use your finger.Later in the week, children will be asked to do their own instructional text. This would be related to something they are doing at home or that they are familiar with.Children will be provided with a **writing frame** with boxes and numbers to help them set out their writing. Children will be asked to edit and improve their writing if they have forgotten any of the main features, or if some of their instructions do not make sense. Features of Instructional texts:* clear layout.
* a 'You will need' list which explains what ingredients or tools are required.
* numbered points.
* 'bossy' verbs (imperative verbs) such as 'put', 'take', 'mix', 'spread
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