

Answer the following questions:

RECALL

1. What are formal words?
2. When do we use them?
3. Write an example of a formal sentence.

# LO: HOW TO USE TECHNICAL LANGUAGE EFFECTIVELY IN AN EXPLANATION TEXT?

Some will even be able to make sentences with some technical and formal words they learnt.

Some will classify vocabulary into technical, formal and informal.

Most will be able to explain the meaning of technical vocabulary in the text.

All will be able to spot technical and formal vocabulary in the text.

# GUIDED PRACTICE

Today, you will look at how we should use technical and formal vocabulary in explanation texts.

What do we mean by technical vocabulary?

These are the words that are strictly related to the topic you are explaining. Many of them are not known by the reader as they might be seen for the first time. If you for example explain the life cycle of a frog and you use the word "gills", the reader may not know what this word mean. In such a situation, you need to explain this word to the reader. You can do it in two ways:

1. Using brackets to add explanation or extra information.

e.g. In the first stage of their life they have gills (breathing organs on the side of the body).

2. Writing a glossary, which is a type of a dictionary, at the bottom of the page.

**Gills** - breathing organs on the side of the body.

# GUIDED PRACTICE 2

What is formal vocabulary?

These are the words we use in more serious texts or more official conversations. You would rarely use these words when writing an email to your friends or somebody from your family. Look at some examples of formal vocabulary:

Formal: My parents have strong affection for their offspring.

Informal: My parents love their children.

Formal: I am unable to find a lavatory on the premises.

Informal: I can't find a toilet in this building.

When you use technical vocabulary, you could explain it using brackets and write a less formal synonym inside the brackets.

# WHY DOES THE MOON CHANGE SHAPES?

One night, I was sitting with Dad in the garden. His arm cloaked around my shoulder. He knelt down and whispered to me - make a wish - blow it to the moon. The whole garden turned bright silver. A star-soaked cat leaped into my lap. When you look at the moon in the night sky it looks a different shape to a few days before. What is the explanation for this? Here is what is happening.

## **Moon phases**

The first thing to understand is that the moon travels around Earth every 28 days. As the moon moves, you see different parts of the moon reflecting light from the sun. You look at the moon from different angles as it moves around Earth, therefore this makes the shape of the moon you can see look different. These different shapes of the moon are called moon phases.

## **A new moon**

The moon's phases start with a new moon. At this point you can't see the moon at all because the part of the moon that faces Earth is in cold shadowy darkness (there's no sunlight heating the Moon).

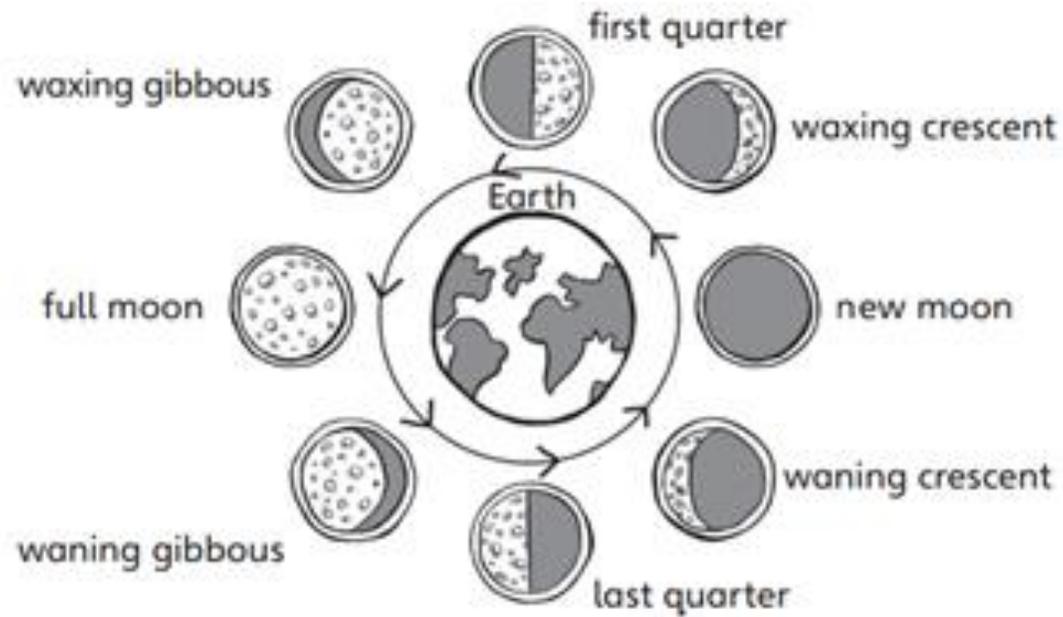
## **A waxing moon**

As the moon orbits (moves around) the Earth you start to see more and more of its bumpy and scarred surface. When the moon is growing night after night it is called a waxing moon. It is a crescent shape. This stage carries on until you can see half of the moon in the night sky. Some even say you can see a cat with a dish on the moon at this time - but I don't know about that! Night after night you see more and more of the moon until after 14 nights there is a full moon (it can't get any bigger). This occurs because you can see a whole side of the moon. This is the moon at its most proud.

## **A waning moon**

After the full moon, the amount of the moon that you can see each night gets smaller and smaller. She begins to go back into her shell. It is a crescent shape again and it is called a waning moon. I sometimes think she's a wailing moon and she is leaving us because she is sad. Twenty-eight days after the new moon you can only see a very small sliver of her in the sky. Finally, the moon starts to travel around Earth again, starting with another new moon.





I especially love this topic because I have a telescope and like to look at the moon and stars in the night sky with my dad. I find the moon fascinating and mysterious but it is also nice to understand why the moon changes shape in the sky.

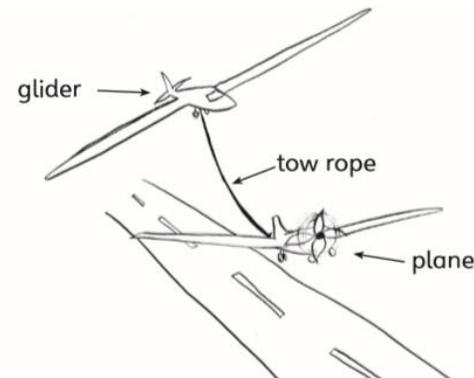
# HOW DOES A GLIDER FLY?

We went up to the airport the other day to see my aunty do her gliding. She (inside the aircraft) was like a gentle feather in the wind. It all looked so peaceful up there amongst the clouds, birds and dreams. I hope to be a feather up there with her too one day. On a sunny day you might even spot my aunty soaring across the sky without making a single sound.

Have you ever wondered how gliders can stay in the air without any engines? Well, let me tell you!

## **How does a glider get up into the air?**

Before someone can fly a glider, it has to get up into the air. For this reason, this had to be done with the help of a plane. Due to the fact of a glider being an unpowered aircraft, a tow rope is attached to the back of the plane and the front of the glider and the plane takes off. When the plane has reached the right altitude (flew high enough in the sky), the tow rope is released and the glider is on its own!



## **How does a glider stay up in the air?**

You might be wondering why the glider doesn't fall down to the ground when the plane is no longer pulling it through the sky. In fact, the glider keeps on flying! As a result of warm current of air rising up from the ground, the glider floats on it. When the glider moves out of a column of rising warm air, it starts to descend (drop) gradually until the glider finds another current of warm air. Warm air ascends (rises) from places like car parks and rocks (they are heated more than other surfaces) on the ground. For this reason, the pilot looks out for these places. Wind can also help gliders to stay in the air.

## **How does the glider land?**

When it is time to land the glider, the pilot has to find the runway and start to descend. The pilot makes flaps on the wings (called spoilers) lift up to stop the glider lifting up any more. The glider lands on one wheel underneath where the pilot sits.

I am interested in gliding because I want to be a pilot when I grow up and gliding is a good way to start learning to fly.

# HOW DO WE RECYCLE GLASS BOTTLES?

## **How do we recycle glass bottles?**

Last month, I went for a trip to a recycling centre with my class. I thought that learning about rubbish would be boring but I was wrong... Everything ( different recycling processes) we saw was interesting but I was particularly impressed by how glass bottles are recycled.

Have you ever wondered how we recycle glass bottles?

## **How are new bottles made?**

New glass bottles are made mainly of silica sand (white fine sand). The sand is melted in a furnace ( a large container) , at a very high temperature. As a result, the process of making new bottles uses a lot of energy (you need to generate a lot of heat). Recycled glass bottles are made in a very similar way, but cost less and use up fewer natural resources and less energy.

## **What happens to the old glass bottles?**

The process begins when people take their used bottles and jars to a bottle bank or put them into their brown bin. Next, the bottles and jars are taken by lorries to the recycling plant. At the plant, due to the bottle tops and lids not being made of glass, they are removed. Next, the glass is sorted by colour and washed to remove any impurities (dirt). Because of the bottles being too big, the glass then has to be crushed into small pieces.

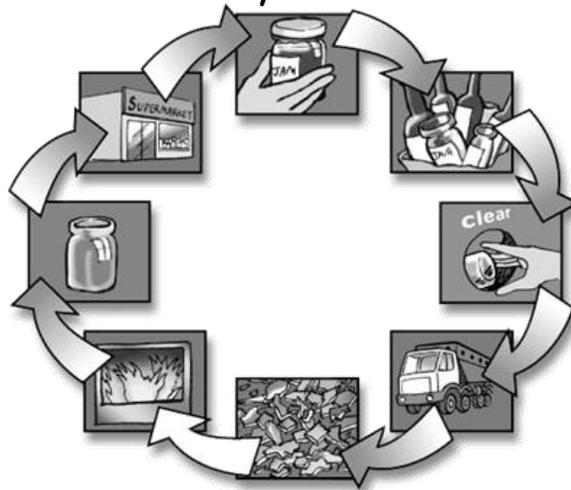
## Where does the crushed glass go?

The crushed glass is then sent by lorry to a bottle factory. Here, it is mixed with a small amount of silica sand (smaller amount than for new bottles). It is then melted in a furnace, at a lower temperature than new glass. Therefore, it allows us to save energy.

## How are the new recycled bottles made?

Finally, the hot liquid glass is drawn out of the furnace and fed into machinery that moulds it into bottles. Recycled glass is as pure and as strong as new glass. For this reason, glass can be recycled many times without losing its quality.

I am really interested in the topic of recycling glass due to the fact that there's more and more plastic bottles (they can't be easily recycled) being thrown away around the world and I would like the people to re-use glass bottles instead of just throwing plastic bottles away.



# INTELLIGENT PRACTICE



Read all the explanation texts again and write down all the technical and formal vocabulary you managed to find.

Title	
Why does the moon change shapes?	
How does a glider fly?	
How do we recycle glass bottles?	

# INTELLIGENT PRACTICE - ANSWERS



Read all the explanation texts again and write down all the technical and formal vocabulary you managed to find.

Title	
Why does the moon change shapes?	Phases, To orbit, occur
How does a glider fly?	unpowered aircraft altitude current descends ascends
How do we recycle glass bottles?	silica sand furnace impurities moulds

# INTELLIGENT PRACTICE



Look at all the technical words from Chilli 1 table, write them down in one column and explain their meaning in the EXPLANATION column. You can find a dictionary on [www.ldoceonline.com](http://www.ldoceonline.com)

Title	Technical word	Explanation
Why does the moon change shapes?		
How does a glider fly?		
How do we recycle glass bottles?		

# INTELLIGENT PRACTICE



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Title	Technical word	Explanation
Why does the moon change shapes?	Phases,	Stages,
	To orbit	To move round
	Occur	To happen
How does a glider fly?	unpowered aircraft	Plane without engine
	altitude	Height
	current	Continuous movement of air
	descend	Drop
	ascends	Go up
How do we recycle glass bottles?	silica sand	White sand used for glass production
	furnace	A large container
	impurities	Dirt
	moulds	forms

# INTELLIGENT PRACTICE



Look at the list of words below and write them into three columns:

1. Technical words    2. Formal vocabulary    3. informal vocabulary

offspring, propeller, spatula, frog's spawn, current, frogness, opaque, hatch, perils, embryo, eggs, Babies, tadpole, static water, infancy, childhood, algae, grow, swim, sprout, elongate, bulge, a baby frog, lay eggs, get out of eggs.

Technical words	Formal vocabulary	Informal vocabulary

# INTELLIGENT PRACTICE –ANSWERS



Look at the list of words below and write them into three columns:

1. Technical words
2. Formal vocabulary
3. informal vocabulary

<b>Technical words</b>	<b>Formal vocabulary</b>	<b>Informal vocabulary</b>
propeller, spatula, frog's spawn, current, frogness, hatch, embryo, tadpole static water, infancy, algae Sprout, bulge	offspring, opaque, perils, elongate	eggs, babies, childhood, grow, swim, a baby frog, lay eggs, get out of eggs

# DIVE DEEPER

Look at the words from 3 chillies and write 2 sentences with technical words, 2 with formal vocabulary and 2 with informal vocabulary.

# DIVE DEEPER 2

Explain each of the following words:

propeller, spatula, frog's spawn, current, frogness, hatch, embryo, tadpole, static water, infancy, algae sprout, bulge, offspring, opaque, perils