

Text Structure and Language Features: Example 1



NEW ZEALAND

Text Structure - Information report

General statement - identifies and classifies the subject

Description - includes political divisions, population flora, fauna, products and landmarks

New Zealand is a land of three main islands. These are the North Island, the South Island and Stewart Island. There are many more small islands which are part of New Zealand. The Maori name for New Zealand is Aotearoa.

The capital city of New Zealand is Wellington. It is in the North Island.

The population of New Zealand is about 4 million. The first inhabitants to live in New Zealand were the Maori, the tangata whenua, or people of the land. After that, from the nineteenth century onwards, people came from all over the world to settle in New Zealand. The two official languages are English and Maori, however many other languages are spoken.

There are many birds and animals, such as kiwi and tuatara, and plants, such as rata, which are only found in New Zealand.

The main products are wool, dairy products, wine, and meat.

Some famous landmarks are the Auckland Harbour Bridge, the Beehive (or House of Parliament), and Aoraki (Mt Cook).

Language Features

Use of general nouns, e.g. New Zealand

Use of timeless present typical of much scientific writing, e.g. is, has

Use of relating verbs, e.g. has, are

Use of adverbial phrases to locate, e.g. in New Zealand

Use of detailed noun groups to build up description, e.g. many more small islands, the first inhabitants

Use of sentences and statements throughout