

Text Structure and Language Features: Example 1

Text Structure -
Negotiating change**Opening/Initiation**

Student: I don't like volleyball. I want to change my sport.

Response

Teacher: It's a little bit late!

Initiation

Student: But, I didn't choose volleyball. I was away.

Response

Teacher: Well that's a bit different. You need to go and see Ms Rogers.

Response/Initiation

Student: OK. Where is Ms Rogers?

Inform:

Teacher: She's in the staffroom.

Closure

Student: Thank you.

STAFFROOM (STUDENT KNOCKS)**Opening**

Teacher: Come in.

Polite Opening/Initiation

Student: Excuse me Ms Rogers, I want to change my sport please.

Response

Teacher: It's a little bit late!

Inform

Student: My teacher said I could.

Clarify/Initiate

Teacher: Did he now? Why?

Response

Student: Because I was away and I didn't choose volleyball.

Inform

Teacher: Most sports are full... You can only do powerwalking or softball.

Initiation

Student: But I want to do soccer with my friends. Please?

Response

Teacher: Maybe next term.

Language Features

Use of nouns to name people, places, things, e.g. Ms Rogers, volleyball

Use of simple sentences shortened where appropriate, e.g. Maybe next term.

Use of appropriate structures and intonation for asking/answering 'wh' and polar questions

Vocabulary appropriate to exchange

Use of appropriate language for closures, e.g. Thanks Ms. Thank you.

Use of polite language, e.g. Excuse me. Thank you.