

Y5 Formal Informal Register

KS2 Y5 English · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

Make formal: 'I don't think it's fair.'

Step 1 · Expand the contractions

I do not think it is fair.

Step 2 · Choose a more formal verb

think → believe

Answer: I do not believe it is fair.

Check: No contractions; precise vocabulary.

2. Now try one with the steps

Make informal: 'I would be delighted to attend your party.'

Step 1 · Use everyday words

Step 2 · Add contractions and a friendly tone

Answer:

3. Practice

Have a go at each one. There is space underneath to work it out.

1. What does 'register' mean in writing?

2. Write the full form of 'can't'.

3. Write the full form of 'they're'.

4. Give a formal word for 'kids'.

5. Give a formal word for 'loads'.

6. Formal or informal? 'Hey! Guess what happened at school today!'

7. Formal or informal? 'I would like to request further information.'

8. Which register would you use for a speech to parents at a school assembly?

9. Make formal: 'We wanna know when the pool's opening.'

10. Make formal: 'Thanks for the stuff you sent.'

11. Make Standard English: 'Me and Josh done the project.'

12. Which sign-off goes with 'Dear Sir or Madam'?

13. Make informal, for a text to a friend: 'I regret that I am unable to attend.'

14. Why should you avoid fillers like 'like' and 'you know' in formal writing?

4. Before you hand it in

Starting formally, then slipping: 'Dear Mrs Okoro, ... It was proper brilliant!'

Keep the same register throughout: 'It was excellent.'

Using contractions in a formal letter: 'I'm writing to...'

I am writing to...

Writing speak: 'We was, like, waiting for ages.'

We were waiting for a long time.

Being over-formal with friends: 'Dear Sam, I would be grateful if you could attend my party.'

Match the register to the reader: 'Hi Sam! Can you come to my party?'