

Y6 Formal Informal Structures

KS2 Y6 English · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

Replace the informal phrase with one formal word: 'The firefighters will help the residents.'

Step 1 · Find the chatty word

help

Step 2 · Choose a formal synonym

assist

Answer: The firefighters will assist the residents.

Check: Same meaning, more formal register.

2. Now try one with the steps

Add a question tag: 'We're going to win.'

Step 1 · Find the helping verb

Step 2 · Make it negative and flip it

Answer:

3. Practice

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

1. Give the formal word for 'find out'.

2. Give the formal word for 'ask for'.

3. Give the formal word for 'go in'.

4. Give the formal word for 'put off' (delay).

5. Underline the question tag: 'You've seen this film, haven't you?'

6. Add a question tag: 'It's a lovely day.'

7. Add a question tag: 'They can't swim.'

8. Are question tags formal or informal?

9. Make formal: 'We got your letter.'

10. Make formal: 'There were about 200 people there.'

11. Make formal using the subjunctive: 'If I was you, I'd ask for a refund.'

12. Make formal by removing the question tag: 'The shop closes at five, doesn't it?'

13. Make formal using the passive: 'We will tell you the results next week.'

14. Name two structures that make writing more formal.

4. Before you hand it in

Ending a formal letter with a question tag: 'You will reply, won't you?'

I look forward to your reply.

Getting the tag wrong: 'She's coming, isn't it?'

She's coming, isn't she?

Formal words in a chatty context: 'Hi Gran! I received your parcel and shall commence eating the cake.'

Hi Gran! I got your parcel. Eating the cake now!

Thinking long words always mean formal.

Check the sentence structure vocabulary.