

Year 6

Writing Guide



Recommendations from Year 6 teachers- Where to start...

<https://www.pobble365.com/> and
<https://www.onceuponapicture.co.uk/>

These websites have a new picture every day that can act as a stimulus for writing as well as various different writing activities to have a go at.

<https://www.literacyshed.com/whats-new.html>

The literacy shed provides stimulating videos and learning opportunities.

<https://www.talk4writing.com/home-school-units/>

This website offers writing booklets with a range of interesting activities to complete.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround>

Newsround will keep you updated about what is going on in the world, stay informed and write your own reports and responses.



Where Do Ideas Come From?

Find something you are interested in. Try to become an expert in that area. Research all you can about it, present your information in different ways and share your learning with others.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/tags/zhgppg8/year-5-and-p6-lessons>

The BBC Bitesize website has daily lessons for all different subjects.



When writing, remember to **always**:

- Write effectively for a range of purposes and audiences, selecting language that shows good awareness of the reader.
- In narratives, describe settings, characters and atmosphere.
- Integrate dialogue in narratives to convey character and advance the action; distinguish between the language of speech and writing.
- Select vocabulary and grammatical structures that reflect what the writing requires.
- Exercise an assured and conscious control over levels of formality, particularly through manipulating grammar and vocabulary.
- Use a range of devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs.
- Use verb tenses consistently and correctly throughout their writing.
- Use the range of punctuation taught at key stage 2, and use such punctuation precisely to enhance meaning and avoid ambiguity.
- Spell correctly.
- Maintain legibility in joined handwriting.



Words, words, words...

Year 6 teachers say be formal. Be adventurous.

Before you start writing, you could create a word wall of exciting words or phrases you plan to use.



replied cried sobbed answered
shouted demanded sighed moaned
howled uttered shrieked complained
ranted **Words to replace 'said'** announced
boasted whined yelled
screamed whispered mumbled pleaded
lied stated murmured bellowed



<p>Enhance your sentence!</p>	<p>Whoever, whenever Whoever was the first to leave, and whenever they did, I was in no doubt their ears would be ringing on their walk home.</p>	<p>Not only, but so Not only was the music loud, but so were the voices of people shouting to one another.</p>	<p>Verb beginning Considering how loud the music was, it was a wonder people were still able to talk to their friends.</p>	<p>Unfortunately fortunately Unfortunately, someone had turned the volume up still higher. Fortunately, the song was popular and people immediately rushed to the dancefloor.</p>
<p>More, more, more The more they drank, the more they shouted, the more excited people became.</p>	<p>So, so The music was so loud, so ear-piercingly deafening, that people could not hear one another talk.</p>	<p>The party was loud.</p>	<p>Adverb beginning Loudly blaring out of the speakers, the music filled the room.</p>	<p>It is not, it is It is not the quality of music that makes a party great, it is the volume.</p>
<p>Three of The party was riotous, roaring and raucous.</p>	<p>Triple noun colon Fun, laughter and music: the party was hitting its peak.</p>	<p>Comma although The music was loud, although that did not stop people trying to have conversations.</p>	<p>Double adjective start Ear-splitting and deafening, the music blared out from the speakers.</p>	<p>Simile start Like thunder, the bass thudded from the speakers.</p>



Formal or informal?

Formal Writing

When do I need to use a formal tone?

Most writing is formal.

Some writing, such as newspaper articles or persuasive writing can be very formal.

What does formal writing look like?

Expanded form (cannot, will not)

Formal language (ouch!, prepare)

Rhetorical questions (What would you do in this position?)

Formal phrasing (It is inadvisable to...)

Informal Writing

When can I use an informal tone?

Diary entries can be written informally.

When you use direct speech, you can be informal.

What does informal writing look like?

Contractions (can't, won't)

Slang (ugh!, get/got e.g. get ready)

Question tags (You liked it, didn't you?)

Informal phrasing (You shouldn't...)



How to adjust your style for different genres

Narrative

- An effective opening that leads into a good plot
- Varied sentence lengths
- Paragraph breaks
- Stylistic devices e.g. personification, similes
- Dialogue
- Varied sentence openings
- Time links to gloss over unimportant sections e.g. next morning
- Use powerful verbs to describe actions
- Use effective adverbs and adjectives to add detail

Newspapers

- Written a headline and sub-heading
- Written in columns
- Written in the past tense
- Included what, where, who, when, how and why
- Used quotes to develop the story
- Broadsheet - Factual, serious, unbiased
- Tabloid - Dramatic, exaggerated, obvious bias, less facts and more speculation

Persuasion

- Written a title
- Included an introduction presenting the topic
- Separated my work into paragraphs
- Written in present tense
- Included facts to help my argument
- Included alliteration
- Used exaggeration (hyperbole)
- Used strong adjectives for a purpose
- Used rhetorical questions
- Presented opinions as fact
- Written a short conclusion



How to adjust your style for different genres

Instructions

- Written a title
- Included what ingredients and equipment is needed
- Written in the present tense and second person
- Used time adverbials to sequence events
- Used imperative verbs
- Written in short, concise sentences
- Included a picture to show what the final product looks like

Discussion

- Written a title or question
- Included an introduction
- Separated work into paragraphs and expanded these with detail
- Included points for
- Included points against
- Written in present tense
- Included logical conjunctions
- Remained balanced throughout the discussion
- Used conditional phrases
- Written a short conclusion where you take a side based on all opinions presented

Information Texts

- Written a title
- Included an introduction
- Separated work into paragraphs with sub-headings and expanded these with detail
- Started each paragraph with a topic phrase
- Written in present tense and third person
- Included technical vocabulary
- Included generalisers
- Included a range of facts
- Written a short conclusion



Writing discussion pieces

Logical Conjunctions

However	The main reasons against
On the other hand	First of all
Nevertheless	As a result
In contrast	Some people believe
In addition	Many people
Moreover	After much thought

Discussion

Key Vocabulary

Abstract nouns - A noun that denotes an idea, quality or state rather than being a concrete object

Conclusion - The summing up of an argument or a text

Conditionals - Avoids a definitive view e.g. could, should

Discussion - A conversation or debate about a specific topic in order to reach a decision

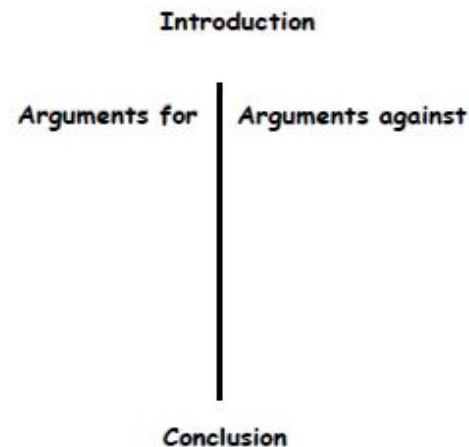
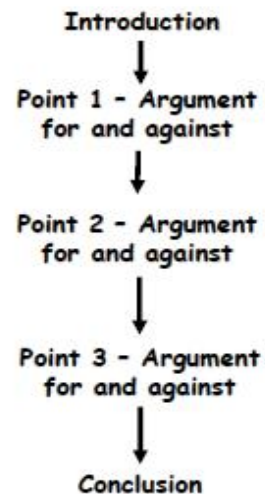
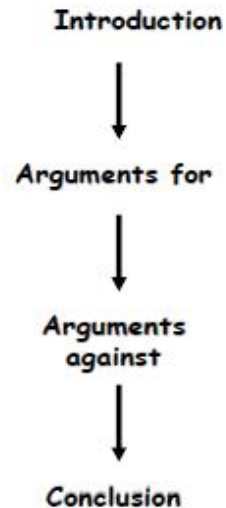
Introduction - An explanatory section at the beginning of a book, speech or report to briefly introduce the subject matter

Logical conjunctions - A word used to connect two or more sentences together e.g. Furthermore

Present tense - The tense that shows an action is currently going on

Third person - The use of they, he, she rather than I or we

Organisation



Writing a Text Analysis - Creating a quotation explosion

Step 1: Decide on your point.

Step 2: Find a quote that demonstrates your point.

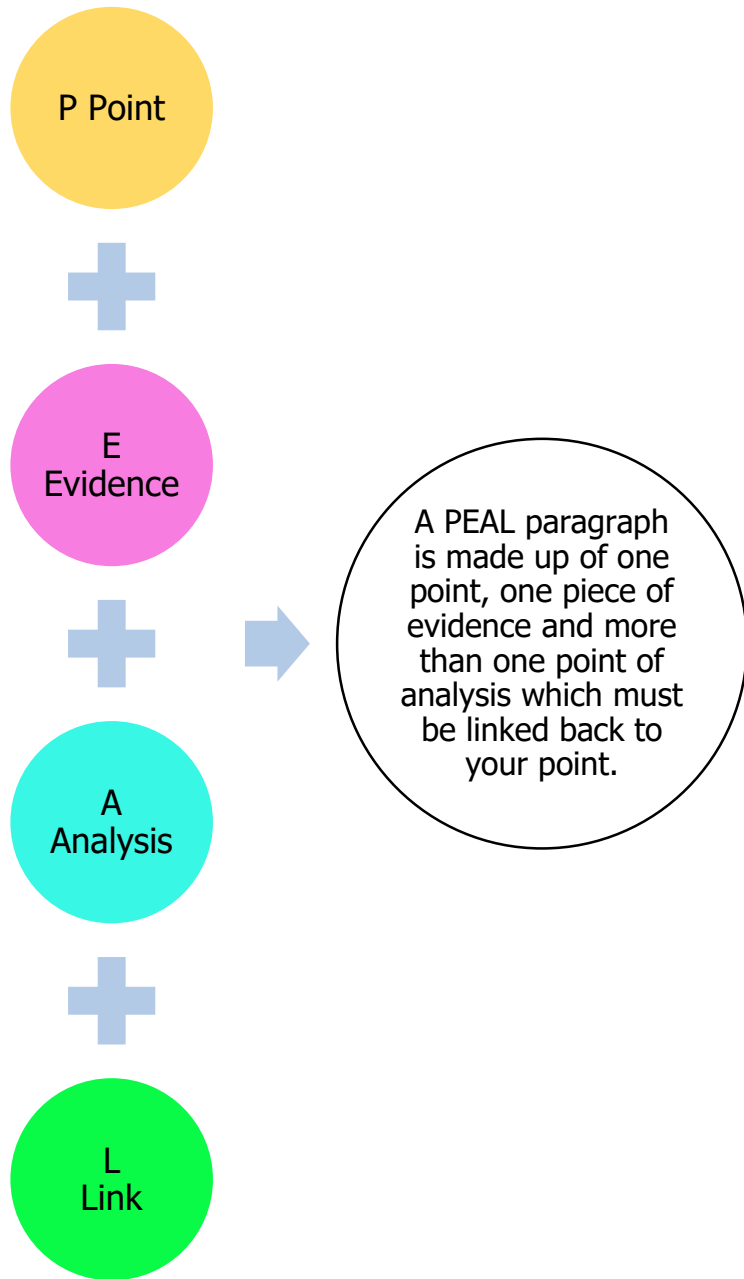
Step 3: Identify the word classes within your quote.

Step 4: Define each word/phrase, or purpose of the punctuation.

Step 5: Link the meaning of words/phrases and punctuation to your point.

<p>Bradley does not currently have any friends.</p> <p>"As long as he hated them, it didn't matter what they thought of him."</p>	<p>Bradley does not currently have any friends.</p> <p>providential conjunction connective pronoun verb pronoun determiner</p> <p>"As long as he hated them, it didn't matter what they thought of him."</p> <p>negative verb phrase preposition pronoun relative pronoun pronoun verb</p>	<p>Bradley does not currently have any friends.</p> <p>providential conjunction connective pronoun verb pronoun determiner</p> <p>"As long as he hated them, it didn't matter what they thought of him."</p> <p>did not negative verb phrase preposition pronoun relative pronoun pronoun verb opinion, impression</p>	<p>Bradley does not currently have any friends.</p> <p>providential conjunction connective pronoun verb pronoun determiner</p> <p>"As long as he hated them, it didn't matter what they thought of him."</p> <p>did not negative verb phrase preposition pronoun relative pronoun pronoun verb opinion, impression</p> <p>he is not worried by it because the feeling is mutual. Although he doesn't like them because he doesn't like them in return, as he sees it.</p>
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Writing a Text Analysis

Writing a PEAL paragraph...

P - Make your point

E - This is shown when "...." (Give your quote)

A - Pick out the word or phrase you are going to focus on first and give its meaning in this context, or if focusing on a particular piece of punctuation explain its usual purpose

L - Explain how that word/phrase/piece of punctuation links to your point

A - Pick out another word or phrase you are going to focus on and give its meaning in this context, or if focusing on a particular piece of punctuation explain its usual purpose

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L - Explain how that word/phrase/piece of punctuation links to your point



Writing a Text Analysis - Example PEAL paragraph

How do you know that Bradley is lonely at school?

We know that Bradley is lonely because he does not have any friends at school. This is exemplified in the quote, "As long as he hated them, it didn't matter what they thought of him." Here the author uses the word 'hate', which indicates a strong dislike of something. The author has chosen to use this word in particular as it is the strongest possible way of saying that you dislike something and reflects how Bradley feels about the other children in his school. Although the other children are mean to Bradley, showing that they dislike him, he goes one step further and hates them. Being disliked and disliking the other children in school shows us that Bradley has no friends. The author uses the pronouns 'them' and 'they' within this quote, which refer to the other children at Bradley's school. If Bradley were friends with the other children, he would know their names but he does not and so refers to them collectively as 'they' or 'them', offering further evidence that Bradley does not have any friends in school. It also indicates that the other children are not important enough to Bradley for him to know their names, further demonstrating that they are not his friends. The author focuses on what the other children 'thought of' Bradley showing that these are their opinions or impressions of him. This reminds the reader that it is not what they have said aloud, but rather only what they think of him. In turn, this indicates that Bradley is assuming what the other children think of him as we do not know that they have ever spoken their dislike of him aloud, showing that the children have not spoken to one another as friends would normally do.



How to write up a Science Experiment

Title - What are you doing? Try to phrase it as a question e.g. Will the number of components in a circuit make a difference?

Introduction - What are you trying to find out? What do you already know? What questions are you trying to answer?

Prediction/ Hypothesis - What do you think will happen and why do you think that? e.g. I predict... because...

I predict that the plants on the window sill will grow more efficiently than the plants in the cupboard as I know one of the things plants require is sunlight.

Your prediction doesn't have to be 'right' but remember to refer back to it in your conclusion.

Methodology - How are you going to test the experiment? What will be the same and what will change (variable)? What equipment do you need to carry out the experiment? Draw any diagrams you may need to (make sure they are drawn with a ruler and labelled if appropriate)

Results - Remember to record results in a neat style; you may wish to use a table or make notes next to diagrams.

Where appropriate, use different visual representations of data such as bar charts or line graphs

Remember to refer back to your set of results in your conclusion.

Conclusion - Answer your original question, state whether or not your original prediction was correct, use scientific knowledge to explain your results, how could you further investigate? Describe what your data shows

Where appropriate; identify patterns in your data, describe possible limitations imposed by techniques or equipment, and suggest improvements to your methods or equipment



Do I need a comma or semi-colon?

A **main clause** is a clause that makes sense on its own. It is also sometimes referred to as a simple sentence.

A **subordinate clause** is a clause that does not make sense on its own. It must be used alongside a main clause within a sentence.

A comma is used to separate a **main** and **subordinate** clause but only when the **subordinate** clause comes first in the sentence.

If we go to the park today, I want to play on the swings.

I don't think we should go to the park today because it is raining.

A semi-colon is used to separate two **main** clauses.

We can't go to the park today; it is raining.



Spelling list

accommodate	criticise (critic + ise)	individual	relevant
accompany	curiosity	interfere	restaurant
according	definite	interrupt	rhyme
achieve	desperate	language	rhythm
aggressive	determined	leisure	sacrifice
amateur	develop	lightning	secretary
ancient	dictionary	marvellous	shoulder
apparent	disastrous	mischievous	signature
appreciate	embarrass	muscle	sincere(ly)
attached	environment	necessary	soldier
available	equip (-ped, -ment)	neighbour	stomach
average	especially	nuisance	sufficient
awkward	exaggerate	occupy	suggest
bargain	excellent	occur	symbol
bruise	existence	opportunity	system
category	explanation	parliament	temperature
cemetery	familiar	persuade	thorough
committee	foreign	physical	twelfth
communicate	forty	prejudice	variety
community	frequently	privilege	vegetable
competition	government	profession	vehicle
conscience*	guarantee	programme	yacht
conscious*	harass	pronunciation	
controversy	hindrance	queue	
convenience	identity	recognise	
correspond	immediate(ly)	recommend	

Writing Help Mat

TiP ToP Paragraphs

Ti - Stands for Time, so start a new paragraph for a different time period

P - Stands for Place, so start a new paragraph for each new place

To - Stands for Topic, so start a new paragraph for each new topic, idea or subject

P - Stands for Person, so start a new paragraph for each person

Prepositions

On	Along
Over	Beyond
Beside	Under
On top of	In
Between	Before
Past	After

Coordinating Conjunctions

For	Or
And	Yet
Nor	So
But	

Subordinating Conjunctions

After	Since
Although	So that
As	Than
Because	Though
Even though	Unless
If	When
Once	Where
Rather than	While



Modal Verbs

Could	Will
Must	Shall
Should	Has to
Ought	Might
Would	Can
May	Might

Cohesive Devices

Furthermore	Soon after
First	Moreover
After that	In contrast
Despite	In addition
However	Otherwise
In comparison	Therefore
In the mean time	In particular
Finally	Although
Then	Also

Writing Help Mat

Passive Verbs

Is	Will be
Is being	Is going to be
Was	Must be
Was being	Should have been
Has been	
Had been	

Punctuating Speech

There are four key rules:

- 1) Use inverted commas "To open and close speech."
- 2) Start speech with a capital letter
- 3) Before closing speech, use appropriate punctuation e.g. "I'm going to the shops," said John.
- 4) New speaker - New line

Punctuation

Parenthesis - A word or phrase inserted as an explanation or afterthought into a passage, usually marked off by brackets, dashes or commas.

e.g.
Snow White, in a moment of madness, took a bite from the shiny red apple.

Snow White - in a moment of madness -took a bite from the shiny red apple.

Snow White (in a moment of madness) took a bite from the shiny red apple.

Commas for clarity - Commas for clarity avoid a subject being interpreted incorrectly.

e.g.
Let's eat grandma!

Let's eat, grandma!

Colons: A colon can be used to introduce a list, before someone speaks or instead of a full stop.

e.g.
He was freezing: the temperature was below zero.
I want the following items: butter, sugar and flour.

Semi-colons: A semi colon is used to separate parts of a sentence/ longer items in a list.

e.g.
James likes Indian food; Mario prefers Italian food.

You will need to bring a sleeping bag; some food for yourself; a small gift for the host and some clothes.

