




Identify the purpose of a text

Student name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

Practice

- 1 You will be working in groups of three or four to identify the purpose of some texts.
- 2  In your group, look at a C21 Course Book, Level 3 or Level 4, and find eight reading texts from different units in the books. Write down the page numbers of the texts you have chosen.
- 3  In your group, make a list of the different text purposes that you saw on the Factsheet, without looking at the Factsheet. Now look back at the Factsheet and check you have remembered all of them.
- 4  In your group, look at each of the eight texts that you have chosen and decide its purpose. Make a note of the purpose and your reason. Here is an example from page 82 of C21, Level 4. The purpose is either advising or describing.

MEMORIZATION STRATEGIES

Train your brain and become a memory champion.



1 Highlighting, underlining and copying are three ways to help you memorize. They are, however, passive activities. There are also more active ways of remembering that engage your brain at a deeper level. Using new information when you speak or write, or doing word puzzles or games helps memorization. One study found that students remember information best when they know they will be asked to teach it to someone else. Another tip is to use the information soon after learning it.

2 Much of the information we receive is essentially meaningless, but people with good memories find ways to make this information more memorable. Techniques like this are called mnemonics. A good example of this involves a deck of playing cards. In the World Memory Championships, participants can memorize 52 cards in a random order in just minutes. Their strategy is to link each playing card to something more memorable, for example, a person they know. They can then create stories that involve all 52 people appearing in the correct order.


3 Another strategy involves the planets in our solar system: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto. Most of us remember the names but struggle to remember the order from the Sun. However, a simple sentence like, 'My very easy method

just shows us nine planets' makes it a lot easier to remember. The first letter of each word corresponds with the first letter of each planet.

4 Long numbers like 64392296 are difficult to remember. But if you separate or 'chunk' it into 64, 39, 22, 96, it becomes easier. This is because two-digit numbers can be more meaningful, for example, they can represent ages, birthdays, important years, and so on. Also we can hold two- or three-digit numbers more easily in our short-term memory.

5 Images are very helpful for memorizing, especially if they are unusual or funny. When remembering a shopping list, for example, try picturing the various items on your body: cheese on your head, butter in your ears, bread under your arms, etc. It may sound strange but it works.

6 As children, we often use songs to remember the alphabet or rules to help us spell, for example, 'i before e except after c', or a funny rhyme to remember important dates from history, for example, 'In fourteen hundred and ninety-two, Columbus sailed the ocean blue'. Experts have found that the sound pattern helps our brains to process the information more easily.

5  Appoint a spokesperson for your group. The spokesperson should go from your group to two other groups and discuss the purpose of two of the texts you have chosen. Spokespeople from other groups will join your group.

6 Your teacher will ask some people to present some of the texts they chose to the whole class.

7 Write three or four sentences about how to understand the purpose of a text and why it's important.

Reflect

8 Every time you need to read a text in the future, before you start reading, stop and try to understand the purpose of the text. Try to make this part of your 'reading routine'.