

Definition or glossary entry

Explain a term precisely for a particular subject audience

COMMON FORMS

Glossary, textbook, science or humanities vocabulary

TEXT SHAPE

Term → category → distinguishing features → example or boundary

FEATURES AND LANGUAGE

Present tense; relational verbs; technical nouns; examples and contrast

PLAN AND TEACH IT

Define by category and key features. Add an example and clarify what the term does not mean when useful.

tone and register

Concise and precise; match the amount of technical language to reader knowledge.

LINKED CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Try: Definition from Features · Meaning, Form, Sound · Colour-Code the Grammar

A MODEL TO NOTICE

Bring a short example. Ask who it is for, what it is trying to do and which feature helps it work. Compare it with a less effective draft.

QUICK CHECKLIST

- ☐ The opening makes the purpose clear: Explain a term precisely for a particular subject audience.
- ☐ Each part has a clear place and moves the reader towards the purpose.
- ☐ The language features, tone and level of formality fit the reader and situation.

A QUICK CLASSROOM ROUTINE

- 1 NOTICE** Read a model for purpose, shape and audience.
- 2 REHEARSE** Practise a useful sentence or language feature aloud.
- 3 WRITE** Plan, draft and use the guide as a checklist.
- 4 REVIEW** Ask a partner whether the text does its job; revise one feature.
Keep the subject thinking ambitious. Make the language visible, practise it, then fade the support.