

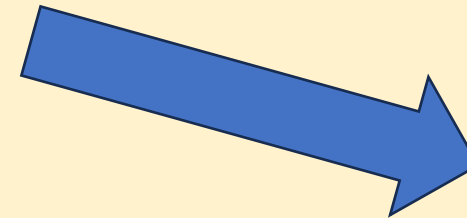
# How to write an engaging piece of **transactional** writing.

Mr J Greenhalgh – Whole School Literacy Lead



Transactional -

relating to exchange or interaction between people.



**PERSUASION!**

## What tasks have looked like in the past:

2 1

You are asked to give a lively talk to younger students in which you give advice about how best to prepare for and cope with the demands of GCSE exams.

**Write what you would say in your talk.** [20]

2 2

This is part of a letter that has appeared in a newspaper:

'It's about time teenagers thought about their responsibilities and contributed more to their communities.'

**Write a letter to the newspaper responding to this view.** [20]

2 1

This is part of a letter that appeared in a newspaper:

"We are told that zoos and animal parks are important for supporting endangered animals and to give people a chance to see animals they would never normally see, but surely wild animals belong in the wild, not cages and enclosures. Zoos and animal parks are not important in the twenty-first century."

**Write a letter to the newspaper giving your views on this subject.** [20]

2 2

A travel magazine is publishing a series of articles called, '**Where I Live**' in which people write about their home area, what they like about it but also what is less desirable. You decide to write an article on the topic for the travel magazine.

**Write your article.** [20]

2 1

**Write a lively guide** to surviving the teenage years for a school/college magazine. [20]

2 2

You have been asked to give a **talk** to your class about your hobby or special interest to try to encourage others to get involved.

**Write what you would say in your talk.** [20]

### Sample Writing Task:

*A proposal has been made to hold a motorcycle race on the roads in your area. You have decided to write an article for your community magazine to share your views on this proposal. You could write in favour or against this proposal.*

*Write a lively article for the magazine giving your views.*

[20 Marks]

### Technical Accuracy

- Remind learners that 8 marks out of 20 are available for vocabulary, sentence structure, spelling, punctuation for each Writing task in the Component 2 exam.

The other 12 marks are awarded for the content/quality of what is written.

Motorcycle racing is bad because people can get hurt.

Motorcycle racing is a leading factor in roadside fatality in Britain.

I think that the idea is dreadful. Our town doesn't need this to improve.

Hughie Walls, Salford Councillor, has insisted we don't need an event such as this and that it will "greatly damage" our environment.

What is the potential danger of a task that looks like this on the paper?

2 1

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**Write what you would say in your talk.**

[20]

2 2

This is part of a letter that has appeared in a newspaper:

'It's about time teenagers thought about their responsibilities and contributed more to their communities.'

**Write a letter to the newspaper responding to this view.**

[20]

Guide your parents around the extract you have.

Where does it achieve certain things you have been taught?

Dear Sir/Madam,

Teenagers are not responsible enough. They parade our streets aimlessly, intimidate residents, and are generally nuisances.

I am glad you wrote your piece on this a few weeks ago.

Recently, I had the extreme displeasure of an interaction with a teenager who spat his chewing gum out, littering on my street. When challenged on this, his manner was rude and abrasive. Where have the manners of society gone?

Just yesterday I saw in The Guardian that 43% of teenagers drop out of college and remain unemployed for lengths of six months or more. I wonder what the government is doing about such a horrifying statistic. My solution would be a National Service that build character and resilience.

I am exhausted by the sights of lingering and loitering hoodlums decreasing the value of my home by their presence. They offer nothing of value to society currently. These young people need direction and focus. National service would provide this.

I know it may seem that I have a vendetta against young people, believe me, I don't. I just worry that my fourteen-year-old son will follow in the footsteps of some directionless youth who appeared "cool" at one point.

Thank you for voicing this opinion in your article last week, I am a fan of your column every issue.

Yours faithfully,

J Trandle.

With your guardians, decide what you would talk about in each paragraph if you got a similar task to this in a few weeks.

2

2

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**Write your article.**

[20]

The tasks ask for between 300-400 words. If 350 words is the sweet spot, and you had FOUR ideas, you would need around 90 words for each idea.

Do your ideas have the weight to be spoken about for around 90 words each?

# One final note!

## The importance of punctuation:

She found inspiration in cooking her family and her dog

Slow school children crossing road.

Lets eat Nanna

She found inspiration in cooking, her family, and her dog.

Slow! School children crossing road.

Let's eat, Nanna!

One MORE final note:

Guardians! How often are you asking your young ones about something you've read?

Tip: both download the BBC News app. Choose a topic you're interested in e.g. Fashion – challenge your young one to read the same article as you – ONE A DAY!

They are updated daily, and this will help students in structuring this type of writing!



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