Tone Sort

Choose language that fits the situation.

6.LU "The student will use the conventions of Standard English when speaking and writing, differentiating between contexts that call for formal English and situations where informal discourse is more appropriate. Grammar Construct simple..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

FORMAL ENGLISH

Use formal English for school, work, and other serious situations. Choose polite, complete wording and avoid slang.

I would appreciate your assistance with the registration form.

INFORMAL DISCOURSE

Use informal discourse when talking or messaging with friends and family. Casual words and slang may fit these situations.

Want to grab snacks after practice?

1 SORT

8 items

Circle FORMAL or INFORMAL for each message, then choose two messages and explain which language clues helped you sort them.

1.	Please submit the permission slip by Friday.	FORMAL	INFORMAL
2.	My cousin's party was super fun!	FORMAL	INFORMAL
3.	Hey, can you text me the game score?	FORMAL	INFORMAL
4.	I am writing to ask about the science fair.	FORMAL	INFORMAL
5.	The meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m.	FORMAL	INFORMAL
6.	Thank you for considering my request.	FORMAL	INFORMAL
7.	That movie was awesome!	FORMAL	INFORMAL
8.	Could you provide more details about the schedule?	FORMAL	INFORMAL

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new FORMAL message and one new INFORMAL message about two different topics.

FORMAL _____

INFORMAL _____

CHALLENGE

Rewrite one INFORMAL item from Part 1 as a FORMAL message without changing its main idea.

ANSWER KEY # Tone Sort

GRADE 6 · 6.LU

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Please submit the permission slip by Friday.	**FORMAL**	Polite, complete wording fits a school message.
2	My cousin's party was super fun!	**INFORMAL**	The phrase "super fun" is casual.
3	Hey, can you text me the game score?	**INFORMAL**	"Hey" and texting language fit a casual message.
4	I am writing to ask about the science fair.	**FORMAL**	This is a polite, complete request.
5	The meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m.	**FORMAL**	This clear, professional announcement fits a formal setting.
6	Thank you for considering my request.	**FORMAL**	This is polite language for a formal request.
7	That movie was awesome!	**INFORMAL**	"Awesome" is casual language.
8	Could you provide more details about the schedule?	**FORMAL**	The polite, precise question fits a formal setting.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **FORMAL**: Could you please tell me the date of the field trip?
- **INFORMAL**: I can't wait to play basketball after school!

Challenge: Item 7: I enjoyed the film very much.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Accept other responses when the language clearly matches the intended audience and situation. For Part 2, students should point to clues such as polite wording, slang, casual greetings, or complete professional phrasing.