

Tone Match

Choose language that fits the situation and audience.

8.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 complete, respectful, standard language.

Reference volumes remain inside our library, according to librarian policy.

INFORMAL DISCOURSE

Use informal discourse when talking or messaging casually with people you know. Relaxed words, slang, and abbreviations may fit this audience.

Yikes, Jordan totally crushed that skate trick!

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Read each statement and circle FORMAL or INFORMAL based on the language and likely audience.

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. I am writing to ask about the science fair schedule. | ☐ FORMAL | ☐ INFORMAL |
| 2. Please accept my apology for arriving late. | ☐ FORMAL | ☐ INFORMAL |
| 3. That movie was sooo funny! | ☐ FORMAL | ☐ INFORMAL |
| 4. I'll text you after practice. | ☐ FORMAL | ☐ INFORMAL |
| 5. OMG, I forgot my notebook. | ☐ FORMAL | ☐ INFORMAL |
| 6. The committee will meet on Thursday at 3:00 p.m. | ☐ FORMAL | ☐ INFORMAL |
| 7. Can we hang out this weekend? | ☐ FORMAL | ☐ INFORMAL |
| 8. Thank you for considering my application. | ☐ 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

PROVE IT: Pick two numbered items. For each one, explain which words or features show that it is formal or informal. MAKE YOUR OWN: Write one new FORMAL example and one new INFORMAL example.

FORMAL _____

INFORMAL _____

CHALLENGE

Change this informal message into formal English: "Hey, can u tell me when the bus gets here?" Then name two changes you made.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	I am writing to ask about the science fair schedule.	FORMAL	This is a complete, respectful request appropriate for school.
2	Please accept my apology for arriving late.	FORMAL	This uses polite, professional wording.
3	That movie was sooo funny!	INFORMAL	The stretched spelling creates a casual tone.
4	I'll text you after practice.	INFORMAL	Texting a friend after practice is a casual situation.
5	OMG, I forgot my notebook.	INFORMAL	The abbreviation OMG is casual language.
6	The committee will meet on Thursday at 3:00 p.m.	FORMAL	This is a clear, standard announcement.
7	Can we hang out this weekend?	INFORMAL	Hang out is a casual phrase used with peers.
8	Thank you for considering my application.	FORMAL	This is respectful language for a serious purpose.

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:** Would you please explain the homework assignment?
- **INFORMAL:** I can't wait to see the game tonight!

Challenge: Could you please tell me when the bus will arrive? I changed "Hey" to "Could you please" and replaced "u" with "you."

For PROVE IT, accept explanations that point to features such as respectful wording, complete standard language, slang, abbreviations, or a casual phrase. Student examples may vary if the language clearly fits the assigned category.