

The Six Main Types of Non-Fiction Texts

<u>What is it called?</u>	<u>What is it for?</u>	<u>How can I recognise it?</u>	<u>Main features and examples</u>
Information Books	To organise and link information clearly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It provides clear information about a subject • It is usually written in the present tense • It is normally written in the third person 	Subheadings, short paragraphs, diagrams and photos
Recount	To tell us what has happened	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answers the questions where, why, what, who, how • It is usually written in the past tense 	Eg a biography , sports report
Instruction	To tell us how to do or make something	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will be ordered eg 1,2,3,4,... or use bullet points • It can use pictures and diagrams, to make the information clear • It will use imperative verbs (bossy verbs), which tell you what to do - for example "make", "add" and "stick!" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eg recipes, directions, self- build instructions, rules of a game
Explanation	To explain how things work or why	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It explains a subject and helps you to understand it more • It uses the present tense • It's impersonal • It may use diagrams, pictures, maps and photographs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar to information texts • Many textbooks and reference books are explanation texts
Persuasion	to persuade you to do something	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It tries to convince you to do or agree with something • It contains a mix of fact and opinion • It may use repetition, "soundbites" and persuasive or emotive language • It often seems to speak directly to the reader 	<p>An appeal to give money to charity</p> <p>Magazine articles and newspaper reports may try to persuade you to agree with them</p>
Argument	To give a balanced and fair viewpoint and come to a conclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It discusses an issue, considering all points of view • It often uses a formal and impersonal style to seem balanced • It uses connectives to connect points, for example "however", "but", "similarly" 	