



Summary of typical ingredients of non-fiction text types

(Note most text is hybrid and includes elements of other text types)

Recount text	Instruction text	Information text	Explanation text	Persuasion text	Discussion text
<p>Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Autobiography <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper article <p>I was always fascinated by watches when I was a child. One day, when no one was looking, ...</p>	<p>Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Recipe <input type="checkbox"/> Instruction manual <p>On arrival, sign the visitors' book and pick up your visitors' permit which must be displayed at all times...</p>	<p>Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Dictionary <input type="checkbox"/> Reference book <p>Time and how to measure it is something that has fascinated human beings across the ages.</p>	<p>Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Encyclopaedia <input type="checkbox"/> Science text book <p>The reason why the Moon rises about 50 minutes later every night is because it is orbiting Earth.</p>	<p>Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Advert <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper editorial <p>Does your watch stop working just when you need it? Buy Perfectotime and never worry again.</p>	<p>Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Essay on causes of something <p>There is still much debate about whether global warming exists and, if it does, how to prevent it.</p>
<p>Audience</p> <p>Someone who wants to know what happened</p>	<p>Audience</p> <p>Someone who wants to know how to do something</p>	<p>Audience</p> <p>Someone who wants to know about something</p>	<p>Audience</p> <p>Someone who wants to understand a process</p>	<p>Audience</p> <p>Someone you are trying to influence</p>	<p>Audience</p> <p>Someone who is interested in an issue</p>
<p>Purpose</p> <p>To retell a real event in an informative and imaginative way</p>	<p>Purpose</p> <p>To tell someone how to do something in as clear a way as possible</p>	<p>Purpose</p> <p>To present information in an unbiased way that is easy to understand</p>	<p>Purpose</p> <p>To help someone understand a process or why something is</p>	<p>Purpose</p> <p>To promote a particular view in order to influence what people do or think.</p>	<p>Purpose</p> <p>To present a reasoned and balanced view of an issue.</p>
<p>Typical structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> chronological order <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs often begin with a topic sentence 	<p>Typical structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Strict chronological order <input type="checkbox"/> Often in list form <input type="checkbox"/> Often uses diagrams 	<p>Typical structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Logical order <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs begin with a topic sentence <input type="checkbox"/> Often organised into categories with subheadings 	<p>Typical structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Series of logical (often chronological) explanatory steps <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs often begin with a topic sentence 	<p>Typical structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Logical (in this case emotive) order <input type="checkbox"/> A series of points building one viewpoint <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs often begin with a topic sentence 	<p>Typical structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Logical order with intro & conclusion <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes a series of contrasting points <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs often begin with a topic sentence
<p>Typical language features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 1st or 3rd person – if 1st, then personal <input type="checkbox"/> Past tense <input type="checkbox"/> Time connectives and sentence starters for coherence <input type="checkbox"/> Specific and descriptive – often in style of info or explanation <input type="checkbox"/> Speech 	<p>Typical language features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Simple, clear, formal English <input type="checkbox"/> Imperative verbs <input type="checkbox"/> Time connectives or numbers for coherence 	<p>Typical language features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Formal and impersonal <input type="checkbox"/> Present tense <input type="checkbox"/> Generalisation <input type="checkbox"/> Detail where necessary – often includes some explanation <input type="checkbox"/> Technical vocabulary <input type="checkbox"/> Varied connectives and sentence starters for coherence 	<p>Typical language features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Formal and impersonal <input type="checkbox"/> Present tense <input type="checkbox"/> Causal connectives and sentence starters for coherence <input type="checkbox"/> Generalisation <input type="checkbox"/> Detail where necessary – often includes information <input type="checkbox"/> Technical vocabulary 	<p>Typical language features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Personal and direct <input type="checkbox"/> Emotive and often deceptive language <input type="checkbox"/> Emotive connectives and sentence starters for coherence 	<p>Typical language features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Formal and impersonal <input type="checkbox"/> Varied connectives and sentence starters for coherence often emphasising contrast or causal connections <input type="checkbox"/> Use of Point: evidence: comment