

# Can I identify the features of an explanation text

Year 3

Summer Week 8

Lesson 1

# What is an explanation text?

An **explanation text** is a piece of non-fiction writing explaining an action process or event in a detailed but simple way. It can feature numbered or bullet points, adverbials of time and labelled pictures or diagrams to help the reader understand the process of what's being explained.

**This week you will be writing an explanation text for a new type of transport.**

# What features do you need to include in your explanation text?

- Capital letters and full stops
- Paragraphs
- Be able to describe the mode of transport
- Subheadings
- Conjunctions
- Fronted adverbials
- Adverbs
- Prepositions

**All of these features will ensure that your explanation text is successful**

Your task today is to read through an explanation text and spot some features. Follow the slides to complete this.

## How to Fly a Bubble Balloon

This is called the TITLE

**This is the opening paragraph (or the introduction).**

Can you imagine a machine that is so exciting that it will make excitement pump through your veins? This brand new type of transport is so unusual that everyone will stop and stare. This amazing machine simply cannot be missed! Have you ever wondered what it would be like to travel up into the clouds? Would you like to experience the gentle wind in your hair as you glide through the sky like a bird? Read this explanation text and find out all about how simple they are to fly!

# Subheadings help to introduce each section

Parts This is a SUBHEADING

Bubble balloons can fly to incredible heights. The world record is over 21,000 metres. It can be challenging to breathe at that height, so oxygen is needed from around 5,000 metres. In contrast to the cold temperatures of the skies, the temperature inside a bubble balloon is usually kept just below 120 degrees celsius. A bubble balloon is made from a large woven basket, four steel gas tanks, a burner and the balloon which looks like a bubble.

There is a fronted adverbial in this paragraph ... can you find it? (answer on next slide)

Did you spot the **fronted adverbial**?

## **Parts**

Bubble balloons can fly to incredible heights. The world record is over 21,000 metres. It can be challenging to breathe at that height, so oxygen is needed from around 5,000 metres. **In contrast to the cold temperatures of the skies,** the temperature inside a bubble balloon is usually kept just below 120 degrees celsius. A bubble balloon is made from a large woven basket, four steel gas tanks, a burner and the balloon which looks like a bubble.

# Some more features....

## Flight

Firstly, the pilot puts four poles into the holes at the top of the basket. Then, they carefully place the burner on top of the poles. Next, they connect the cables to the burner frame. The cables also go under the basket in order to hold everything together.

After this, they connect the hoses from the full gas tanks to the burner, which allows it to be tested.

Next, two people hold the mouth of the bubble open while it is filled with cold air from the fan. It takes two people because of its large size. They do this until the material becomes rounded and stretched.

These are called **ADVERBIALS OF TIME**  
These help tell the reader when something is happening

# Adverbs (these describe the action)

The most demanding task needs the lead pilot to crouch on the ground partly inside the basket. They then need to **cautiously** turn the gas burner on and position the flame into the opening of the bubble. As a result of the heat entering the bubble, it **gradually** rises up.

When the pilot is ready to set off, they stand in the basket and heat up the air in the bubble by 20 degrees, which makes the air hot enough to get the balloon to rise off the ground. The pilot can control how high the balloon elevates by increasing or decreasing the strength of the flames.

When ready to land, the pilot **gradually** reduces the strength of the flames. This causes the bubble to deflate and **eventually** it reaches ground **once more**.

Can you spot any prepositions in this?

Remember: prepositions include: on, over, under and in etc.

Answers on next slide



# Did you spot the prepositions?

The most demanding task needs the lead pilot to crouch **on** the ground partly **inside** the basket. They then need to cautiously turn the gas burner on and position the flame **into** the opening of the bubble. As a result of the heat entering the bubble, it gradually rises up.

When the pilot is ready to set off, they stand **in** the basket and heat up the air in the bubble by 20 degrees, which makes the air hot enough to get the balloon to rise off the ground. The pilot can control how high the balloon elevates by increasing or decreasing the strength of the flames.

When ready to land, the pilot gradually reduces the strength of the flames. This causes the bubble to deflate and eventually it reaches ground once more.

# The closing paragraph or conclusion

## Is it for you?

Are you excited? Do you feel like you could have a go? If you are fascinated by soaring heights, if you see yourself as a bit of a daredevil, then why not have a go yourself at flying a bubble balloon.

***Under 18's must be accompanied by an adult.***

This is where you ask questions and ensure that you link back to your Introduction.

The sentence in bold is showing important information