

Writing Genres

It is important to write in a variety of genres, for a variety of purposes. Determine which of the six traits of writing (word choice, ideas and content, voice, organization, sentence fluency, or conventions) are most important for each type before beginning to write.

Narrative: Narrative writing tells a story.

Short Stories (3-30 pgs.)	comic strips	Novelas (30-60 pgs.)
Poems	fables	plays/skits
ballads and other narrative formats	folk tales	myths
rhyming formats	anthologies	picture books
counted syllable formats	fairy tales	song lyrics
sestina	parodies	memoirs
free verse	Adventures	Animal Stories
Fantasies	Historical Fiction	Humorous Stories
Mysteries	Sports Stories	Realistic/Contemporary Fiction
Science Fiction		

Recounts: Recounts are the retelling of true/factual events.

letters	newspaper	articles book blurbs
eulogies	magazine articles	reviews- books, magazines, movies, cds, etc.
biographies	profiles	skits/plays
journals	newsletters	interviews
dramatic monologues	commercials	memoirs

Procedures: Procedures give directions or follow a path of instruction.

directions	how to make something work	cookbooks
experiments	handbooks	instructions
rules	surveys/forms for others to fill out	

Reports: Reports inform the reader about factual information in an accurate and detailed way.

profiles	essays	speeches
powerpoint/hyperstudio	reports	pamphlets/brochures
web pages		

Explanation: Explanations give detailed information to the reader

letters of	speeches	notices
thanks, congratulation,	invitations	essays
complaint, love,	handbooks	fan letters
advice, sympathy,	memos	scientific writing
inquiry, or apology		

Persuasion: Persuasive writing is written from a particular point of view and its purpose is to convince the reader of that point of view

letters of apology,	essays	editorials
protest, or application	op-ed pieces	debates
proposals	resumes/cover letters	critical reviews
speeches	advertisements	