

Text Structure and Language Features: Examples 1, 2 and 3

Text Structure - Request for goods

Opening
 Student 1: Excuse me Zoran.
Response
 Student 2: Yes.
Initiation
 Student 1: Can I borrow your ruler?
Response
 Student 2: Yes, OK.
Feedback
 Student 1: Thanks.

Language Features

Use of polite openings, e.g. Excuse me.

Use of questions, e.g. Can I borrow your ruler?

Use of ellipsis typical of responses in casual conversations, e.g. Yes. (not Yes you can borrow my ruler.)

Use of polite closures, e.g. Thanks

Text Structure - Request for information

Opening/initiation
 Student: Excuse me Mr. White, where's Room 4?
Response
 Teacher: Go down the end of the corridor, (teacher gestures) then turn left. It's the first door.
Feedback
 Teacher: OK?
Initiation
 Student: Again please.
Response
 Teacher: Repeats directions slowly.

Language Features

Use of polite openings, e.g. Excuse me.

Use of questions, e.g. Where's Room 4?

Use of imperatives, e.g. Go down the end, turn left.

Use of ellipsis typical of responses in casual conversations, e.g. OK? (not Is that OK?)

Use of repetition for clarification

Text Structure - Request for information

Initiation
 Teacher: Zoran, why are you late?
Response
 Student: I missed the bus.
Initiation
 Teacher: Have you got a note from the office?
Response
 Student: No.
Initiation
 Teacher: Well, go and get one from the office please.
Feedback
 Student: OK.

Language Features

Use of proper nouns for opening, e.g. Zoran

Use of questions, e.g. Why are you late? Have you got a note?

Use of ellipsis typical of responses in casual conversations, e.g. No. (not No, I haven't got one.)

Use of imperatives, e.g. Go and get one.