

Formal and Informal Language



Directions:
Sort the examples.
Choose one example of
formal language and
one example of informal
language. Tell when it is
appropriate to use each
example.

Second Grade Common Core
ELA Standards
L 2.3.a Compare formal and
informal uses of English.





Formal Language

Informal Language



Chill out.

Please calm down.

Hey, man!

Hello, Mrs. Scoggins.

Cut it out!

Please stop doing that.

See ya later.

Goodbye.

Thanks, bud!

Thank you for helping me.

Throw me a towel.

Please hand me a paper
towel.

Wanna go to the movie with me?

Would you like to go to the movie with me?

Thanks for helping out.

Thank you for helping us.

He ain't taking turns.

He is not taking turns.

What's up?

How are you?

The little kid was whining because he lost his toy.

The small child was crying because he lost his toy.

I'm gonna hang out with my homies.

I am going to play with my friends.

Assessment for Formal and Informal Language

Imagine that you are talking to your principal about your favorite book. What type of language would you use? Give at least two examples of what you would say. Now think about how you should NOT talk to your principal. Give at least two examples of what you should NOT say.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Score | Student identifies formal language as appropriate for speaking with a principal. | | Student is unable to identify formal language as appropriate for speaking with a principal. |
| | 4 | | 0 |
| ***** | Student gives 2 examples of formal language appropriate for speaking with a principal. | Student gives one example of formal language appropriate for speaking with a principal. | Student is unable to give an example of formal language appropriate for speaking with a principal. |
| | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| ***** | Student identifies one other situation where formal language is appropriate and gives an example. | Student identifies one other situation where formal language is appropriate but does not give an example. | Student is unable to give an example of a situation that calls for the use of formal language. |
| | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| ***** | Student gives an example of language that is inappropriate for speaking with a principal. | | Student is unable to give an example of language that is inappropriate for speaking with a principal. |
| | 4 | | 0 |
| ***** | Student identifies one situation where informal language is appropriate and gives an example. | Student identifies one situation where informal language is appropriate but does not give an example. | Student is unable to give an example of a situation that calls for the use of informal language. |
| | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| RUBRIC TOTAL: | | TOTAL SCORE: | |
| 4 Questions Quiz Total: | | TOTAL SCORE x 4: | |

Assessment for Formal and Informal Language

(1 point each)

1. I would most likely use formal language if I was having a conversation with
 - a. my brother
 - b. my friend
 - c. my teacher
 - d. my cousin
2. “Whassup?” This is an example of
 - a. formal language
 - b. informal language
3. “Whassup?” I would most likely NOT say this to
 - a. my brother
 - b. my friend
 - c. my teacher
 - d. my cousin
4. I would most likely use informal language if I was having a conversation with
 - a. my brother
 - b. my teacher
 - c. neither
5. “Hey, dude!” You might say this to your friend. Below, write what you might say to your teacher instead of “Hey, dude!”