

Vocabulary & Text Types

IGCSE English • Topic 11

IGCSE English



Vocabulary & Text Types

What we will cover

- 1 Learn words well
- 2 Natural phrases
- 3 The text types
- 4 Match style to type



1 Vocabulary

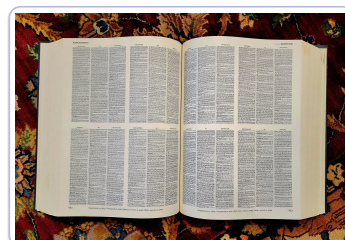
Vocabulary & Text Types

Vocabulary

Learn words well

- meaning, spelling, sound – three ways
- keep a **vocabulary** 词汇 notebook by topic

Notice useful words in every text type and practise them in your own writing.



Grow vocabulary by reading and collecting words

Vocabulary & Text Types

Vocabulary

Turning a new word into a word you own

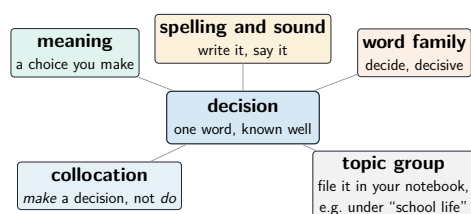
1. **meet it** notice the word in a real sentence, and write that sentence down – not the word alone
 2. **record it** meaning, an example, and how it behaves: which preposition, which form
 3. **test it** cover the meaning and recall it the next day, then again a week later – **spaced review** 间隔复习 fixes words in memory
 4. **use it** put it into your own writing or speaking within a few days, before you forget it
- blog** 博客 a personal, informal online post – like an article but more casual, so it sits near the informal end of the range
- leaflet** 传单 short, practical, headed sections – written to be scanned rather than read

Steps 3 and 4 are the ones people skip, and they are the two that decide whether the word is still there in the exam.

Vocabulary & Text Types

Vocabulary

Knowing a word well means knowing all of this



Knowing a word well means knowing all of this

Vocabulary & Text Types
↳ Vocabulary

Natural phrases

collocations 词语搭配
make a decision; heavy rain

set phrases 固定短语
common fixed expressions

phrasal verbs 短语动词
give up; look after

Using natural phrases makes your English sound **fluent** 流利.

Vocabulary & Text Types
↳ Vocabulary

The text types

email – one person

article – many readers

report – facts for a boss

review – an opinion

essay – argue a view

notice – short info

Vocabulary & Text Types
↳ Vocabulary

The text types, continued

email to
inform a friend

article - review

report - formal letter
- essay

short forms, chatty, warm and friendly

lively but clear, talks to "you"

full forms, polite, no slang

Every text type sits somewhere on the line from informal to formal

Each writing task is a **text type** 文本类型 with its own rules.

Vocabulary & Text Types
↳ Vocabulary

Match style to type

purpose 目的

reader

tone

Each **text type** 文本类型 has its own purpose, reader & tone. Before writing, ask: **what type is this, and what style does it need?**

Vocabulary & Text Types
↳ Vocabulary

Matching style to text type

a letter or emailgreeting and sign-off, and the **register** 语域 set by who receives it

a reportheadings, calm and impersonal language, and a recommendation at the end

an articlea hook, a personal voice, and an ending that stays with the reader

a reviewdescription and judgement alternating, ending in a recommendation

a speechdirect address to the audience, repetition, and a strong close

the first questionthe task names the **format** 格式, the **purpose** 目的 and the **reader**. Use all three

Getting the format right is worth marks before a single idea is judged. Read the task twice and name all three before you plan.

Vocabulary & Text Types
↳ Vocabulary

Exam tips

- Learn words in families, one family per text type: email openers, report verbs, review adjectives.
- In the writing exam, put the text type's fixed parts down first: greeting, title or headings. They are the easiest marks on the paper.
- Keep a personal word list. Five new words a day beats fifty words once a month.
- When a new word appears in the reading paper, guess it from the context and keep moving; never freeze on one word.

2 Recap

Worked example – identifying a text type

A text has a headline, a byline, short paragraphs, quotations from witnesses, and no “I”. What is it?

- Headline + byline ⇒ it was **published**, so not a letter or an email.
- Quotations from **witnesses** ⇒ it reports what happened to **other people**.
- No “I” and no opinion ⇒ **impersonal**, so not an article or a review.
- ⇒ a **news report**.

Identify the type from its **features**, then match your writing to them. Report = facts, impersonal. Article = opinion, a voice. Review = judgement + recommendation.

Topic 11 – key takeaways

1 Learn words

meaning, spelling & sound; a notebook

2 Phrases

collocations, set phrases, phrasal verbs

3 Text types

email, article, report, review, essay...

4 Style

match purpose, reader & tone to the type

Check yourself

- 1 What three things make a collocation? (give an example)
- 2 Which text type argues a point of view?
- 3 Which text type gives facts to a person in charge?
- 4 What three things must match the text type?



Answers 1. words that go together (heavy rain) 2. an essay 3. a report 4. purpose, reader & tone