

Worksheet: Language functions

Language acts and intentions

Exchange of information

- Naming
- Describing something
- Drawing attention to something
- Reporting
- Announcing
- Asking for information
- Affirming and denying
- Refusing to answer
- Expressing a supposition
- Expressing doubts

Expression of feelings

- Expressing a liking for someone
- Expressing emotions
- Expressing compassion
- Expressing antipathy
- Expressing gratitude
- Expressing joy
- Expressing enthusiasm
- Expressing disappointment
- Expressing satisfaction
- Expressing helplessness
- Expressing hope
- Expressing fear, anxiety
- Expressing grief
- Expressing annoyance

Social conventions

- Expressing greetings
- Greeting back
- Introducing oneself
- Bidding farewell
- Expressing thanks
- Making compliments
- Congratulating someone
- Expressing condolences

Evaluation / commentary

- Expressing an opinion
- Praising / positive evaluation
- Criticizing / negative evaluation
- Reproaching / accusing
- Apologizing
- Giving reasons
- Justifying
- Asking for an opinion
- Agreeing
- Contradicting
- Retracting something
- Expressing an interest
- Expressing wishes

Regulating action

- Asking for help
- Expressing wishes
- Demanding
- Ordering, buying
- Giving an assignment
- Instructing
- Complaining
- Warning
- Threatening
- Encouraging
- Suggesting
- Advising
- Offering to do something
- Rejecting an offer

Organising Speech

- Introducing a statement
- Asking for comments
- Concluding a statement

Language register

- Everyday language
- Antiquated language
- Official language
- Biblical language
- Dialectic language
- Specialist terminology
- Ceremonious address
- Youth language
- Media language
- Poetical language
- Language befitting a certain role
- Slang
- Colloquial language
- Quotations
- Stage language
- Journalistic jargon
- Teenage jargon
- Criminal jargon
- Political correctness
- Advertising
- Sales talk
- Reporting (Sport)
- Cursing