



# INSTRUCTIONAL WRITING

## Instructions

We are surrounded by instructions. We get instructions from our parents, our siblings, our screens, even our food packaging. Instructions help us to stay safe and to carry out complex operations.

On a film set, the Director gives instructions to the actors and crew.

## Instructional language

*Instructions are written in a certain way to communicate effectively:*

- ◆ They are organised into steps, either numbered or bullet points.
- ◆ Time connectives are used at each step (e.g. next, then, firstly, secondly).
- ◆ Instructions are written in clear, easy to understand language.
- ◆ Imperative or 'bossy' verbs are used.

Can you think of any instructions that you've heard today? Write one here:

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Did the instructions you heard fit in with the criteria for good instructions? Why/why not?

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Can you think of any games that have good instructions?

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Can you add some more bossy verbs and time connectives to the grid below?

Imperative Verbs	Time Connectives
Add	Firstly
Roll	Next



## ACTIVITY 1

Look at these instructions of how to play hide and seek.  
Can you edit them to make them clearer?

'To play hide and seek you need to have at least two people and you need to choose one person to be the 'seeker'. That person must count to 20 whilst the rest of the group hides. Whilst counting, the seeker must close their eyes and not peek. After counting to 20, the seeker looks for everybody who is hiding. The last person to be found is the winner and they become the seeker for the next game.'

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## ACTIVITY 2

Using your knowledge of instructional writing, come up with a game that you could play with your family. Make a board, create the instructions and play!