

What we already know

- Non-fiction - instructional texts
- Chronology, imperative verbs, bullet points

Stage 3 and 4 English: Non-Fiction: Information Texts

What's next

- Non-fiction stage 5 and 6 - information/non-chronological reports

English Golden Concepts

Reading: Fluency

Reading: Comprehension

Speaking and Listening

Writing Transcription

Writing Composition

What is non-fiction?

Non-fiction is a genre of writing that is based on facts, real people, or actual events.

Information texts give information on particular subjects.

A non-chronological report is a text that gives information about a topic without following a timeline

Key Vocabulary

Plural nouns	Use when describing general groups, e.g., <i>animals, habitats, features.</i>
Adjectives	A word that describes a noun. For example: <i>shiny, red, soft, heavy.</i>
Conjunctions	A word or phrase that links ideas, sentences, or paragraphs together to show relationships between them, such as addition, contrast, or cause and effect. For example: <i>and, however, also.</i>
Technical terms	Subject-specific words or phrases used to describe key ideas or concepts in a particular topic. For example: <i>habitat, predator, diet, photosynthesis.</i>

Examples of non-chronological reports:

- Animals: 'All About Lions'
- Places: 'The Rainforest'
- Historical Topics: "Life in Ancient Egypt"
- Objects: "How Aeroplanes Work"
- Science Topics: "The Solar System"

What are information texts?

Information texts can be written on a variety of different topics, from natural features and locations to historical figures and events. We encounter them in our everyday lives whenever we read something that provides us with information.

Information texts help us to learn more about the world around us.

Seas and Oceans

Roughly 70% of the Earth's surface is covered in water. Most of this is held in the oceans and seas. Many people use the terms 'ocean' and 'sea' to mean the same thing, but there is a difference. Seas are smaller than oceans. They are normally found where the land meets the water. Oceans are much larger and further away from land. Seas are normally partially enclosed by land. Oceans are usually much deeper than seas. The one exception to this is the Caribbean Sea which is a lot deeper than the average Ocean.

The world is technically covered by one large, global ocean. However, experts divide this up into five major oceans that connect with one another. Each one has its own characteristics and wildlife.

The Pacific Ocean

The Pacific Ocean is the largest and deepest of the oceans. It extends for nearly the entire length of the globe, from the Arctic Ocean in the north to the Southern Ocean in the south. It reaches from the Americas in the east to Australia and Asia in the west. In fact, the Pacific Ocean is home to a wide variety of animals. You can find sea otters, rays, humpback whales and even penguins there.

The Atlantic Ocean

The Atlantic Ocean is the second largest ocean. It is responsible for most of the weather all over Earth, including hurricanes and storms. Species such as dolphins and sea turtles inhabit the Atlantic. It reaches all the way from the Arctic Circle to Antarctica and from the Americas to Europe. The Atlantic Ocean washes against the northern parts of Great Britain.

The Indian Ocean

The Indian Ocean is the warmest of all the oceans. Nearly 75% of the world's coral reef fish live in the Indian Ocean. It is home to many species of turtle, coral and fish such as tuna. It is estimated that there are between 11,000 and 20,000 different species living in the Western Indian Ocean alone. Much of the Indian Ocean is at risk from pollution and climate change. Overfishing is also a significant problem.

The Southern Ocean

The Southern Ocean is sometimes known as the Antarctic or Austral Ocean. It surrounds Antarctica and reaches the southern coast of Australia. It is the only ocean that goes all the way around the globe. The water in the Southern Ocean gets very cold, and parts of it freeze during winter. These form vast sheets of ice. High winds make it a very choppy sea with high waves. Despite the cold, lots of animals live in the Southern Ocean. These include penguins, seals, whales and albatrosses.

The Arctic Ocean

This is the smallest and shallowest ocean. It is also the coldest of them all. Polar bears, narwhals and killer whales all hunt in the Arctic Ocean. One amazing bird that visits the Arctic Ocean is the Arctic Tern. Every six months, they migrate from Antarctica to the Arctic. This epic journey is the longest of any living animal.

Common features of non-chronological reports:

Main title: Clearly states what the report is about (e.g., "All About Penguins").

Headings and sub-headings: These are used to organise the content of into sections to help the reader navigate the text.

Paragraphs: Each paragraph focuses on one idea or topic.

Technical vocabulary: Includes subject-specific words (e.g., "predator," "camouflage").

Factual information: Uses facts, not opinions.

Photographs, illustrations and diagrams: Visual aids to support understanding (e.g. a labelled diagram of a penguin).

Captions: Captions are used to describe included photographs and illustrations.

Present tense: Most non-chronological reports are written in the present tense unless referring to past events (e.g., historical facts).

Third person: Written in third person (e.g., "Penguins live in cold climates").