

Types of text



Text is any piece of writing, e.g. a letter, a poem, a newspaper article, a recipe, a note, etc. and different pieces of text have different purposes. They can be:

- **Persuasive** - text that makes you want to do something.
- **Informative** - text that advises or tells you about something.
- **Descriptive** - text that makes you picture what is being described.
- **Instructive** - text that instructs or tells you how to do something.

Exercise

Read the text on the cards (A, B, C, D) and decide which one of them is:

- Persuasive text
- Descriptive text
- Informative text
- Instructional text

Give examples of words or sentences from each article, which show you which type of text it is.

Article A is

Example

Article B is

Example

Article C is

Example

Article D is

Example

CARD A

Millennium Development Goals - What are they?

The Millennium Development Goals are eight goals that the United Nations member states (which includes the UK) have agreed to try to achieve by the year 2015.

These goals are:

Goal 1: Reduce poverty.

Goal 2: Educate every child.

Goal 3: Provide equal chances for girls and women.

Goal 4: Reduce the numbers of babies and children who die.

Goal 5: Ensure safe and healthy motherhood.

Goal 6: Fight infectious diseases.

Goal 7: Clean up the environment.

Goal 8: Share responsibility for making the world a better place.

CARD B

Water and El Borj

It's noon in El Borj. The small Moroccan village, in the High Atlas, seems deserted. Everyone is indoors, hiding from the hot July sun. Women are cooking while men are resting before returning to the fields. Even the children are silent.

The only sound comes from a tiny room, next to the mosque, where Mohammed and his friends meet before lunch to chat, play home-made instruments and sing about their worries: finding a girl to marry or going abroad, in search of a job. For most, their biggest worry is lack of water. Although the village is only 460 kilometres southeast of Morocco's capital and its 33 houses are next to a small river, there is no electricity, no running water and no drinking water.

During the winter, it snows and the river overflows, dragging mud from the banks. Women collect the muddy brown water in plastic bottles and wait for the dirt to settle, so their families can drink. In the summer, the river dries up and what little water is left is also used to water the fields, wash clothes and bathe.

- Taken from Chasing the Dream website:
<http://www.chasingdream.org/> a United Nations Interagency Initiative DESA * ECA * UNESCO * UNFPA * UN Millennium Campaign * World Bank* YEN Funded by the Government of Finland Texts © 2005 Roberto Guareschi/PixelPress/UNFPA

CARD C

Change today - choose Fairtrade

By changing to Fairtrade today, you can change the lives of farmers and producers across the developing world. We need to get more people to change to Fairtrade now to show our support for producers and express our dissatisfaction with the unfair trade rules that keep millions of people in poverty.

A simple action like buying a Fairtrade product can start a positive change in peoples' lives in developing countries as well as sending a message to our own government that we want change in global trade rules.

CARD D

Crumbly Banana Squares

175g Fairtrade sugar
175g margarine
225g self raising flour
100g porridge oats
2 medium Fairtrade bananas, mashed
25g sultanas (or similar)
Caster sugar

- Warm your oven to 200°C
- Cream the sugar and margarine together
- Cut in the flour and oats to make a crumbly mixture
- Sprinkle half into a baking tray (12 by 8 inches) and press down lightly
- Spread the mashed bananas and sprinkle the dried fruit over the mixture
- Sprinkle the rest of the mixture over and press down lightly
- Bake it for 25 to 30 minutes until golden
- Sprinkle with caster sugar
- Wait until it cools (if you can) and cut into chunky squares
- Eat