Figure 17.2 Text types

Purposes	Examples	Frameworks	Language features	Reading/writing activities
Narrative To entertain	A story, fairytale, fable, myth, poem, play, biography, legend usually written using chronological events and set in the past, present or future	• Orientation • Initiating events • Complications/ problems • Resolution	• Usually past tense • Characters • Dialogue • Descriptive language • Usually chronological events	The major teaching strategies of • modelling • sharing/interactive • guided and independent learning can be used
Poetry and songs To entertain	Songs, jingles, raps, ballads, limericks	• Orientation • Events • Evaluation (optional) • Orientation	• Rhyme, rhythm • Characters • Descriptive language	**Connections to prior knowledge** KWL Concept map Dictagloss Predicting
Description To describe the features of a thing or a phenomenon	Description of objects, phenomena such as the weather, a bushfire, person	Detailed description of the features of object, place or thing	• Particular nouns • Variety of adjectives • Action verbs • Figurative language	
Transactional To maintain relationships	Cards, letters, invitations, surveys, interviews, questionnaires and often issues are negotiated	• Orientation • Negotiation • Summary (optional)	• Descriptive language • Specific participants (people and things) • Contains questions requiring a response	**Comprehension** Retelling Text clues Cloze Questions Mapping information

Recount
To retell events
	Newspaper accounts, diaries, letters, retelling of growing things or how 'I' solved a problem, autobiography and/or biography depending on whether first person or third person recount	• Orientation
		• Events in time order
		• Re-orientation (optional)
		• Evaluation (optional)
			• Simple past tense
			• Usually chronological events
			• Action verb
			• Specific participants (people and things)
			• Sometimes includes a personal reflection
				Timelines
				  Diaries
				  Life cycles
				  Flow charts

Procedure
To tell the way to do things
Also known as instruction
	An instruction manual, how to read a map, recipes, contracts, writing up experiments	• Goal
		• Materials
		• Method
		• Evaluation
			• Tense is timeless
			• Materials listed
			• There are linking words to do with time: *before*, *after*, *when*
			• Detailed factual description
			• Refers to the reader in a general way or not at all, e.g. 'you mix' or 'mix'
				Fiction and non-fiction text features
				Deconstructing and constructing texts
				Writing frames
				  Narrative
				  Recount
				  Songs and poetry
				  Transactional

Report
To classify and describe a class of things
Also known as a non-linear text
	Report of a community, place or phenomena such as the weather, the skin and the heart. Can use the following structures: compare/contrast, classify, problem/solution, question/answer	• Generalisation/ classification
		• Description
		• Summary (optional)
			• Timeless present tense
			• Subject-specific vocabulary
			• Impersonal objective language
			• Generalised participants (people and things)
				Procedure
				  Report
				    Description
				    Compare/contrast
				    Problem/solution
				Explanation
				Exposition

Explanation To explain phenomena	Explains how kites fly, springs work, what sinks and what floats	• Phenomenon • Explanation sequence	• Timeless present tense *(the kite is lifted …)* • Cause and effect relationships • Some passive voice *(is made by …)*	

Exposition To present an argument for a point of view Also known as argument or persuasive text	A text that persuades by presenting a view about an issue: 'Television is good for children', 'All trees must be saved', 'You are what you eat'	• Thesis • Argument • Reiteration	• Use of thinking verbs associated with reasoning such as *because, therefore* • High modal verbs: *must, should* • Connectives: *first, second, last*
Discussion To present both sides of an argument Position A and Position B and a recommendation	A text that presents several sides to an issue, such as the arguments for and against 'We must ban sugar'	• Thesis • A argument • B argument • Recommendation	• Use of linking words associated with reasoning such as *because, therefore* • Passive voice is often used • Often personal bias is concealed
Mixed genre Narrative and forms of information texts can be combined	Mixed genres can be used within one text such as in post-modern texts or a collection of fiction and nonfiction genres organised around one theme/topic	A combination of frameworks	A combination of frameworks