

Figure 2.6 Some oral language text types

Oral language text type	Purpose	Text framework	Language features
Description	To describe the characteristics or features of a thing or event	Features of the object— SCUMPS may be used: size, colour, use, material, parts, shape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> nouns variety of adjectives action verbs figurative language, e.g. <i>The blue boat is like a fish</i>
Personal response	To respond to a book, movie or play	I like ... My favourite ... The book is ...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> words that express judgements descriptive language
Recount (factual or literary)	To retell a series of events	Orientation Events in order Evaluation (optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> descriptive language past tense words that tell where, when, with, whom, how
Narrative	To entertain, amuse or instruct	Orientation Problem or complication Series of events Resolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> characters and setting are described using nouns and adjectives time words action verbs in the complication and resolution
Procedure	To instruct someone on how to do something	Goal Materials Method Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> verbs usually at the beginning of each instruction words that tell how, when, where, whom
Report	To classify and/or describe	Generalisation/classification Description Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> technical language simple present tense generalised terms
Explanation (factual or literary)	To explain how or why something occurs	Phenomenon Explanation sequence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> technical language use of words to establish cause/effect sequences, e.g. <i>such as, because, as a result</i>
Exposition	To persuade by arguing one side of an issue	Thesis Argument: – Point – Point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use of <i>first, second, in conclusion</i> use of <i>because</i>
Discussion	To examine issues from more than one perspective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use of thinking verbs, e.g. <i>feel, believe, hope</i> use of connectives, e.g. <i>on the other hand, however</i>