

G7: Standard English and Formality

Cut out each card following the thick, black line. Then, fold the card along the dotted line to create a double-sided flashcard. You may wish to glue the two halves together or laminate the cards for longevity.

G7.1

Standard English

Standard English is grammatically correct. It contains no slang and often avoids contractions and exclamations. It uses standard verb forms. Standard English is found in formal writing, e.g.

I ain't gonna go to the bash.
I am not going to go to the party.

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G7.1

G7.2

Formal and Informal Vocabulary

Formal language is used in official or serious written documents. It is not generally used in regular speech, e.g.

I may **purchase** a **beverage**.

Informal language is used between people who know each other well or in relaxed contexts. It is often used in regular speech, e.g.

I might **buy** a **drink**.

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G7.2

G7.3

Formal and Informal Structures

Formal writing usually takes the form of a letter, an essay or an article for an audience that you are trying to impress or that you do not know well.

Informal writing may be presented as a note, a text message, a diary entry or a postcard. The audience of informal writing is usually yourself or someone you know well.

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G7.3

G7.4

The Subjunctive

G7.4

The subjunctive mood explores hypothetical situations. It is used to express wishes, hopes, dreams, opinions or suggestions that could or should happen, e.g.

I wish that **were** the truth.
I propose that he **walk** quickly.
You should demand that the game **begin**.

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