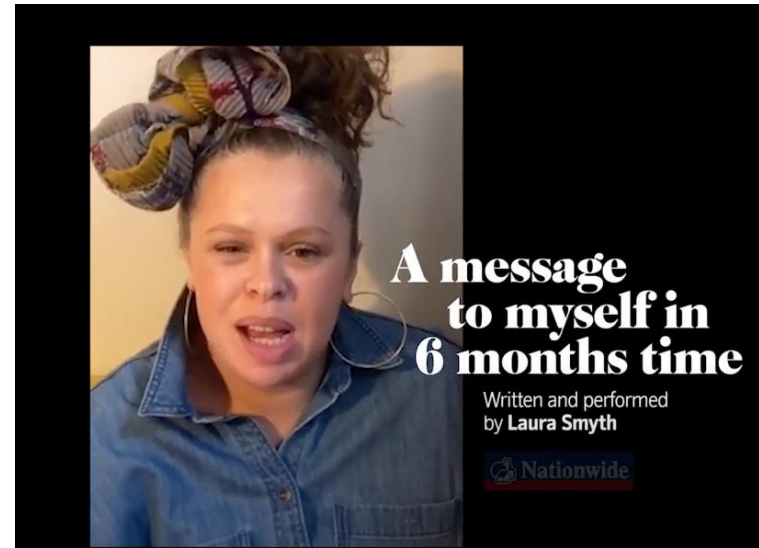


Formal and Informal Language

What is **formal** and **informal** register and when do we use it?

How do contractions affect the register of our language?



Register

Register is created by the way that *language* and *grammar* are used.

I just wish he'd lay off me.

I wish he would not disturb me.

Please refrain from conversing with me.

Will you shut up!

Register can be **formal** or **informal**.



Audience and Context



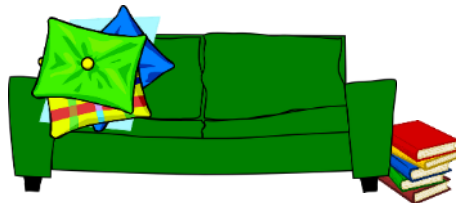
The **register** depends on *situation* and *audience*.

The same person will use *different registers* in *different contexts*.

At **home** with
family

*You're going to
wear that, are
you?*

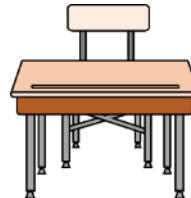
Informal



In **school** with the
headteacher

*When will we be
going on the
museum trip?*

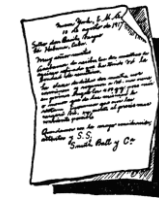
More Formal



In official **writing**

*I wish to register
my interest...*

Very Formal





Formal language is often used for:

Situation	Audience
Official or formal situations	People you don't know
Generalised or impersonal writing	People in official/important roles
Written communication more than spoken	People as a group

We would like to request your presence at the dinner to mark the start of the school year.

Please remain in cabins after dark.

We regret to inform you that your attendance at the school will be terminated at the end of term.

The Ancient Greeks worshipped many gods and goddesses.



Informal language is often used for:

Situation	Audience
Everyday conversation	Family, friends and people you know well
Social media and texts	People similar to you
Most spoken communication	People you meet in day-to-day life

It's okay, man. Thanks for trying.



Eeew! That's disgusting - that is.

We're having lunch. Coming?



Formal and Informal Vocabulary

Formal and informal registers tend to use different vocabulary.

Informal

Could you *assist* me?

Give me a *hand*?

Who is the *champion*?

Who's the *champ*?

He was *excluded* from school.

He was *kicked out* of school.

Formal



With formal vocabulary, words are often *longer*.

I'd

what's

mustn't

Contractions

Contractions appear in informal language.

we're

you're

haven't

Spoken language often contains **contractions**...
but written **formal language** uses the longer versions of the word/s.



We might *write*:

Do not say that I *did not* warn you.

but we are more likely to *say*:

Don't say I *didn't* warn you.

What are the **formal** versions of the **contractions** above?



Formal and Informal Vocabulary

Can you try rewriting these examples in more **formal** language?



That's cool.

*That is **acceptable**.*

I'm sure it'll be okay.

*I **am** sure **it will** be okay.*

Weird, huh?

*Is it **strange**.*

Hey, you going to be ready for the test?

Listen to my question. Are you going to be ready for the test?



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