



Writing like an expert

Written language is very different from spoken language. Often, students write exactly the way they speak and this leads to informal and casual writing with insufficient technicality and objectivity. In Health and Physical Education, students have to walk a fine line between expressing their opinions and, at the same time, being objective and balanced. This page teaches students how to notice when writing is too emotional, too informal or impolite. Also, it encourages students to use technical terms from the topic or curriculum in their writing.

Spoken sentence	Tick one or more boxes to show the problems you can find in the sentence	Re-write an expert sentence here using more technical language from the box.
<p>1. Food should not only feed us right now but it needs to be made and grown and stuff, in a way that looks after heaps of other people too and like our grandchildren in the future.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> too emotional <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> informal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> general and not technical</p>	<p>Food should not only feed us now but it needs to be sustainable for future generations.</p>
<p>2. Farmers and people who produce food should not treat people badly or be mean to them or pay them a totally ridiculous low amount of money and things like that.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> informal <input type="checkbox"/> personal opinions are given <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> general and not technical</p>	<p>Farmers and food producers should not exploit people or pay low wages.</p>
<p>3. There's this little sign on some imported foods, like coffee and chocolate, that says that the people who sell the food looked after the people who made it and didn't rip them off or take advantage of them and it says 'Fair Trade'.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> too emotional <input type="checkbox"/> impolite <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> general and not technical</p>	<p>The Fair Trade symbol shows that the producers of the food have been treated ethically.</p>
<p>4. I hate it that some fresh food like fruit and veges doesn't come from around the corner but it comes from like overseas or hundreds of kilometres away instead of nearby.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> too emotional <input type="checkbox"/> impolite <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> general and not technical</p>	<p>Some fresh food like fruit and vegetables is not sourced locally but can be imported from overseas or hundreds of kilometres away.</p>
<p>5. Food should be as natural as possible and not have nasty sprays on it while it's growing and that.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> general and not technical <input type="checkbox"/> impolite <input type="checkbox"/> too emotional</p>	<p>Food should be as natural as possible and not treated with chemical fertiliser during growth.</p>
<p>6. When you buy food, don't be an idiot and get ones wrapped up in heaps of plastic.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> impolite <input type="checkbox"/> uses personal opinions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not technical</p>	<p>You should not buy food in excess plastic packaging.</p>

Eating sustainable food



Writing like an expert

To write like an expert in Health and Physical education, you should be specific, objective and technical:

- specific – be exact; do not use general and vague statements
- objective – be polite; support statements with evidence and facts; avoid overly emotional language
- technical – use vocabulary from this subject and your topic.



Read the spoken sentences in the box below. Tick one or more boxes to show the problems you can find, then re-write the sentence like an expert, using technical language from the box. You will need to change the wordings of the original sentence.

Technical language

ethical	sustainable	future generations	organic	produced locally	overfishing
imported	low wages	chemical fertiliser	exploit	food waste	ethically
recycled	well-being	plastic packaging	free range		

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1. Food should not only feed us right now but it needs to be made and grown and stuff, in a way that looks after heaps of other people too and like our grandchildren in the future.	<input type="checkbox"/> too emotional <input type="checkbox"/> informal <input type="checkbox"/> general and not technical	_____ _____ _____
2. Farmers and people who produce food should not treat people badly or be mean to them or pay them a totally ridiculous low amount of money and things like that.	<input type="checkbox"/> informal <input type="checkbox"/> personal opinions are given <input type="checkbox"/> general and not technical	_____ _____ _____
3. There's this little sign on some imported foods, like coffee and chocolate, that says that the people who sell the food looked after the people who made it and didn't rip them off or take advantage of them and it says 'Fair Trade'.	<input type="checkbox"/> too emotional <input type="checkbox"/> impolite <input type="checkbox"/> general and not technical	_____ _____ _____
4. I hate it that some fresh food like fruit and veges doesn't come from around the corner but it comes from like overseas or hundreds of kilometres away instead of nearby.	<input type="checkbox"/> too emotional <input type="checkbox"/> impolite <input type="checkbox"/> general and not technical	_____ _____ _____
5. Food should be as natural as possible and not have nasty sprays on it while it's growing and that.	<input type="checkbox"/> general and not technical <input type="checkbox"/> impolite <input type="checkbox"/> too emotional	_____ _____ _____
6. When you buy food, don't be an idiot and get ones wrapped up in heaps of plastic.	<input type="checkbox"/> impolite <input type="checkbox"/> uses personal opinions <input type="checkbox"/> not technical	_____ _____ _____