

# English Explanation Lessons 7 and 8



Writing the first draft of our Explanation Text:

“How a.....Contraption Works.”

You have come up with an idea for your contraption and after all our planning, organising and learning how to “explain,” you are going to write your EXPLANATION.

So, one step at a time.

- Title:
- It must begin: “How a.....Contraption Works.”

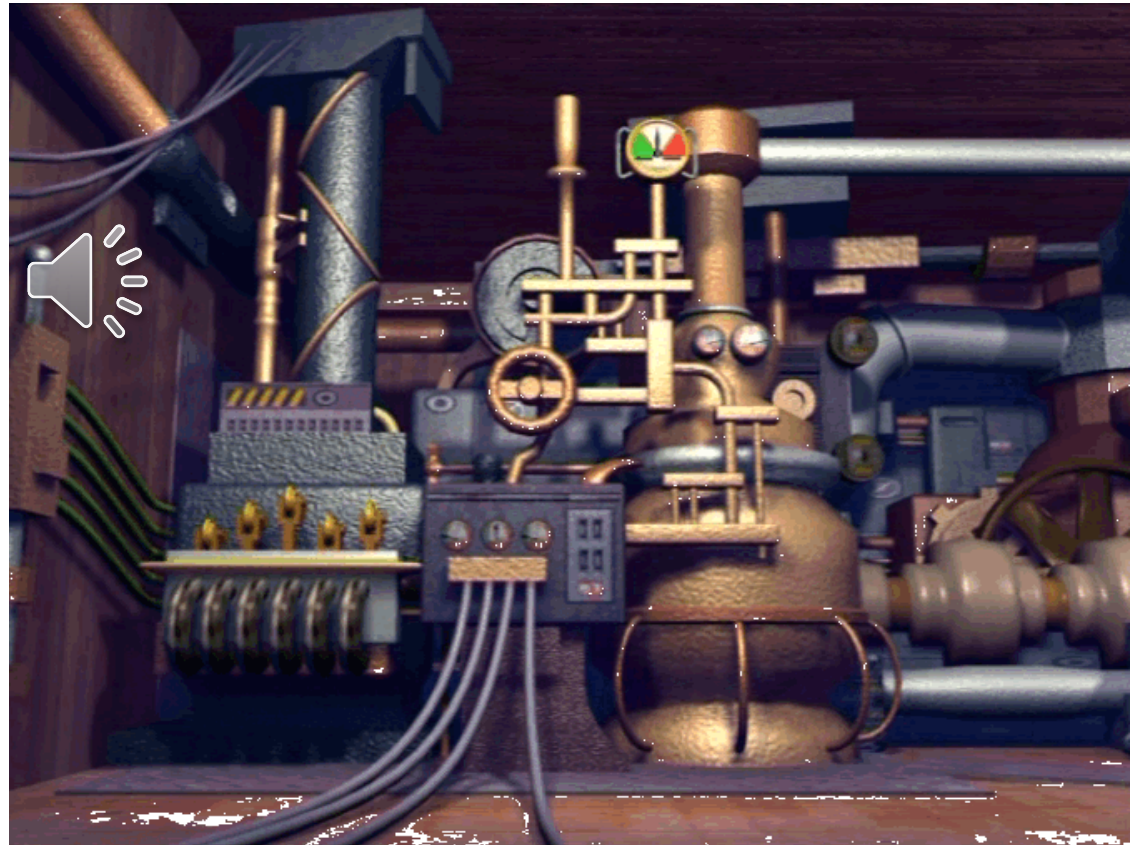


It would be a good idea to have a short opening/introduction.

- Eg:

The Car Washing Contraption is a device that washes an average sized family car. It includes scrubbing, rinsing and polishing features and it can be operated by any person who owns a car.

You may wish to include a diagram of the contraption.  
But do not spend too long on this at the moment as this is an English lesson. You could draw a box now with a quick sketch and then refine your drawing at the end?



Write the main part of the text, explaining how your contraption works.  
Sequence may be very important – it depends if your device has to work in a particular order.  
Do you notice that this is written in the present tense and in an impersonal tone.

- Eg:

### Car Washing Device

The 947 Car Washing Device runs on carrot juice and is activated by pushing the green button on the top left.

The foam brush will automatically shoot out of the silver tube and will foam for exactly 3 minutes. (grab the brush with a firm grip because it has 345 carrot power surging through it.)

When it has finished it will be sucked back into position.

For rinsing the car, pull the yellow lever marked "RINSING" and the rinse hose will uncoil from the box beneath this. The rinse speed and force can be adjusted using the buttons on the handle.

(Warning: the highest rinse force 10 may lift small operators off the ground so is only recommended for large or very strong users).

If the polishing function is required, open the green box marked "POLISH" and take out the can of spray and the rag cloth. This part is manual.

The "BREAK TIME" function is optional. Press "Tea" "Coffee" or "Chocolate" and the mechanical arm will pass you the required drink.

You may wish to have additional information boxes.  
These are for things like “helpful tips” or a “Safety Warning!”

- Can you think of some ideas to share?



Your explanation may need a glossary if it contains TECHNICAL LANGUAGE – language that is specific to your contraption.

- EG:
- For my car washing contraption, I may include these words in a Glossary:
- mechanical: operated by machine or machinery
- manual: relating to or done with the hands

Some contraptions will have more technical language than others. These are words that the reader may not understand.

# A conclusion/summary at the end

- Eg:

The 947 Car Washing Device is being used in countries throughout the World and it cleans over 6 million cars a year. It is well known for its reliability and great cleaning power. Its designers, Wallace and Gromit, consider it to be one of their proudest inventions to date.

Can you see how the conclusion “pulls” the piece of writing together at the end. It stops it from ending abruptly. Also, all parts of the text are written in the PRESENT TENSE.

Your task for today and for tomorrow`s lesson is to compose your Explanation Text.

- In these two sessions, you should be able to come up with a good, solid first draft of your Explanation.
- It may be hard to write it on Teams for some of you, so you could write it on paper and scan it or pass it in to us.
- You can write it in to your exercise book and we can see it when you hand work in.
- We may also be able to hear some of them in our class chats, if you are able to share work.
- GOOD LUCK WRITING IT AND HAVE FUN! I enjoyed doing mine.