



WRITING LINKS

Parliament Education: Teacher Guide

Research shows that more authentic tasks will support intentional writing for students (McCutcheon 1988). Using your Parliament visit provides a tangible purpose for your students' writing. They need to know that writing can be used for a variety of purposes, and that we write with this in mind.

Persuasive writing

A piece of persuasive writing can be written in the first person. Often, the writer will use inclusive language to get the audience on their side. For example:

We must... For the sake of **our** future...

The writer may use a personal story or emotive language too as well as evidence (facts and data) that support their argument. Here introductory phrases help to signpost this, e.g: *For example... To illustrate... For instance... The evidence is clear...*

Ideas for persuasive writing linking to Parliament

1. A letter to your MP about an issue affecting your school, local community or wider.
2. An opinion piece on New Zealand's Parliament.
3. A persuasive argument outlining why 10-year-olds should be allowed to vote.
4. Why *you* would make a great representative in the House.

Report writing

Many reports use precise and technical language specific to the topic in question. For example, a report on the Debating Chamber may include words such as *Hansard*, *Gallery* and *Clerk of the House*. Historical and scientific reports use the third person. When recounting a personal experience, the writer can use the first person.

Report writers use transition words to connect ideas e.g. *First... In addition... In particular... To conclude...*

Ideas for report writing linking to Parliament

1. The history of New Zealand's Parliament
2. The Government and the role of Ministers.
3. The role of elect committees in the law-making process.
4. Research a Prime Minister and write a report about their contributions to New Zealand.
5. The role of the Opposition and media in Parliament.

Recount writing

This text type is about a past event or experience, usually in chronological order.

1. Write about your visit to Parliament