Modern Greek Continuers text types

What are ‘texts’ (text types)?

‘Texts’ (text types) are various forms of spoken and written language, such as articles, conversations, letters and so on. Each text type varies in its characteristics of format, style, and language. In the Modern Greek Continuers HSC written examination, the following text types are specified for production:

1. article
2. diary entry
3. email
4. letter
5. message
6. note
7. notice
8. postcard
9. recount
10. report
11. script of an interview
12. script of a speech/talk.

Note: in the oral examination, you participate in a conversation.

Two different styles of writing

In the written section of the HSC examination, you are required to produce two different styles of writing. The first style is informative or descriptive and the second is reflective, persuasive or evaluative, and could require you to explain or justify a point of view. Using the correct text type and including the correct style of content is important.

Sample tasks and practice questions

Past HSC papers can be downloaded from the [NESA website](http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/Understanding-the-curriculum/resources/hsc-exam-papers). Some past HSC questions have been used as sample tasks in this document.

The ‘texts’ (text types)

1 Article

Purpose

* to sustain an argument
* to describe
* to inform, persuade, amuse or entertain

Structure

* titles/headings (if appropriate)
* development of ideas/arguments
* sequencing and linking of ideas
* statement of conclusion or advice

Language features

* range of tenses (past, present, future, conditional)
* language can be descriptive, factual, judgemental, emotive, or persuasive depending on context
* informal or formal register (be consistent throughout the article)

Sample question

Write approximately 200 words in GREEK. Write an article for the school blog reflecting on the use of laptops throughout your school years.

2014 Higher School Certificate Examination, Modern Greek Continuers, Section III, Question 13(a) (10 marks) © NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for and on behalf of the Crown in right of the State of New South Wales, 2014

Task

Identify the following for the sample question:

1. What is the purpose?
2. Who is the audience?
3. What is the context
4. What is the required text type?
5. What is the style?

2 Diary entry

Purpose

* a personal reflection on a theme, place or situation

Structure

* date (*Τετάρτη, 14 Ιουνίου 2017*)
* opening (*Αγαπημένο μου ημερολόγιο,…*)
* development of ideas/arguments
* sequencing and linking of ideas
* concluding statement (for example *Με αγάπη, Αντίο)*
* sign off with name

Language features

* written in the first person (keep the tone/perspective of the character from whose perspective you are writing)
* usually written in past tense (simple past, imperfect, past perfect)
* language can be descriptive, factual, judgemental, emotive, or persuasive depending on context
* informal register

Sample question

Answer the following question by writing approximately 75 words in GREEK. Imagine you have had a very disappointing weekend. Write a diary entry describing it.

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Task

Identify the following for the sample question:

1. What is the purpose?
2. Who is the audience?
3. What is the context
4. What is the required text type?
5. What is the style?

3 Email

Purpose

* to use technology-based methods of communication
* to send greetings
* to retell events
* to inform
* to seek a response

Structure

* email conventions (you are not usually required to write an email address in the exam)
* specific details without elaboration
* salutation (for example, *Αξιότιμε/η, Αγαπητέ Κύριε/Αγαπητή Κυρία, Αγαπητέ φίλε/Αγαπητή φίλη, Χαίρετε)*
* conclusion (for example, *Με εκτίμηση, Με φιλικούς χαιρετισμούς, Με σεβασμό, Με αγάπη)*

Language features

* range of tenses (present, perfect, imperfect, conditional)
* language can be descriptive, factual, judgemental, emotive or persuasive
* informal or formal register (be consistent throughout the email)

Sample question

Answer the following question by writing approximately 75 words in GREEK. Your friends support the proposal to replace the local park with a shopping centre. You do not agree with this proposal. Write the text of an email to your friends to persuade them to change their point of view.

2015 Higher School Certificate Examination, Modern Greek Continuers, Section III, Question 12 (5 marks) © NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for and on behalf of the Crown in right of the State of New South Wales, 2015

Task

Identify the following for the sample question:

1. What is the purpose?
2. Who is the audience?
3. What is the context
4. What is the required text type?
5. What is the style?

4 Letter

Purpose

* to communicate in writing with acquaintances, friends, family, the public
* to inform, amuse, persuade

Structure

* your name and address on the left side (*Από/Αποστολέας*) with the address to which you are writing on the right (*Προς/Παραλήπτης*) (formal)
* town and date under the address to which you are writing
* salutations (for example *Αξιότιμε/η, Αγαπητέ Κύριε/Αγαπητή Κυρία, Αγαπητέ φίλε/Αγαπητή φίλη, Χαίρετε*)
* letter conventions (for example, *Σας γράφουμε σχετικά με, Σας ευχαριστώ για την επιστολή σας, Θα ήθελα να σας ευχαριστήσω για τη συνεργασία, Είμαι στην ευχάριστη θέση να)*
* ending (for example, *Με εκτίμηση, Με φιλικούς χαιρετισμούς, Με σεβασμό, Με αγάπη, Φιλιά)*

Language features

* range of tenses (present, perfect, imperfect, future, conditional)
* language can be descriptive, factual, judgemental, emotive, or persuasive depending on context
* formality of language will depend on relationship between participants (for example letter to a friend or letter to a newspaper)

Sample question

Write approximately 200 words in GREEK. You recently arrived in Greece for a working holiday. You have found accommodation and are sharing with a colleague. Write a letter to your family reflecting on this arrangement.

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Task

Identify the following for the sample question:

1. What is the purpose?
2. Who is the audience?
3. What is the context
4. What is the required text type?
5. What is the style?

5 Message

Purpose

* to inform
* to request
* to instruct
* to remind

Note: the difference between a message and a note is that a message can vary in type, such as voicemail message, text message, email.

Structure

* succinct (short and to the point)
* general statement, description, procedure
* lack of descriptive detail
* frequent use of colloquial language if to a close friend/family member

Language features

* shorter than a standard letter
* informal or formal register (be consistent throughout the message)

Sample question

Answer the following question by writing approximately 75 words in GREEK. Write a message to your careers adviser about a job interview you have recently attended.

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Task

Identify the following for the sample question:

1. What is the purpose?
2. Who is the audience?
3. What is the context
4. What is the required text type?
5. What is the style?

6 Note

Purpose

* to inform
* to request
* to instruct
* to remind

Note: the difference between a message and a note is that a message can vary in type such as voicemail message, text message, email.

Structure

* succinct (short and to the point)
* general statement, description, procedure
* lack of descriptive detail
* frequent use of colloquial language (does not necessarily mean informal register)

Language features

* shorter than a standard letter
* informal or formal register (be consistent throughout the note)

Sample question

Answer the following question by writing approximately 75 words in GREEK. You are visiting your family in Greece and something does not go according to plan. Write an email to a friend describing your experience.

2012 Higher School Certificate Examination, Modern Greek Continuers, Section III, Question 12 (5 marks) © NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for and on behalf of the Crown in right of the State of New South Wales, 2012

Task

Identify the following for the sample question:

1. What is the purpose?
2. Who is the audience?
3. What is the context
4. What is the required text type?
5. What is the style?

7 Notice

Purpose

* to inform
* to seek a response (for example looking for a pen pal or looking for a roommate to share accommodation)

Structure

* heading/addressee
* specific details without elaboration
* statement of conclusion or advice (for example giving contact details)

Language features

* often written in present tense
* language can be descriptive, factual, emotive or persuasive depending on context
* informal or formal register

Sample question

Answer the following question by writing approximately 75 words in MODERN GREEK.

You are intending to rent an apartment at the end of the school year. Write a notice to be placed in the school bulletin asking if anyone wants to share an apartment with you.

2014 Higher School Certificate Examination, Chinese Continuers, Section III, Question 12 (5 marks) © NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for and on behalf of the Crown in right of the State of New South Wales, 2014

Task

Identify the following for the sample question:

1. What is the purpose?
2. Who is the audience?
3. What is the context
4. What is the required text type?
5. What is the style?

8 Postcard

Purpose

* to provide information, amuse or entertain
* to retell events and experiences (for example who, where, what, when)

Structure

* salutations (*Αγαπητέ/ή)*
* brief description or message
* formulaic ending (*Σε φιλώ, Θα τα πούμε σύντομα!)*

Language features

* descriptive language
* personal impressions
* present or past tense, for example what it is like, or where you went, what you did, what you saw

Sample question

Write 100 – 150 words in GREEK. You have been travelling around Greece for the first time. Write a postcard to your grandmother in Australia about your impressions, and in particular about the Greek village where she was born.

2001 Higher School Certificate Examination, Modern Greek Continuers, Section III, Question 15(a) (9 marks) © NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for and on behalf of the Crown in right of the State of New South Wales, 2001

Note: this question is now worth 10 marks.

Task

Identify the following for the sample question:

1. What is the purpose?
2. Who is the audience?
3. What is the context
4. What is the required text type?
5. What is the style?

9 Recount

Purpose

* to inform or entertain
* to retell past events or experiences
* to retell a series of events

Structure

* introduction/orientation (set the scene – who, what, where, when)
* events sequenced in chronological order
* closing statement

Language features

* often told in the first person (*Εγώ*)
* descriptive language
* often told in past tense (simple past, imperfect, past perfect)
* time words to connect events (for example, *στην αρχή, στη συνέχεια, ύστερα, αργότερα, τώρα, πριν, στο τέλος*)
* words which tell us when, where, with whom and how
* linking words (for example, *διότι, επειδή, επιπλέον, ωστόσο, με άλλα λόγια, επομένως, συμπερασματικά*)

Sample question

Write 150–200 words in MODERN GREEK. ‘You have been on a holiday recently. Write a description of something unusual that happened. Your description will be posted on the internet as a blog.

2008 Higher School Certificate Examination, Modern Greek Continuers, Section III, Question 12(a) (6 marks) © NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for and on behalf of the Crown in right of the State of New South Wales, 2008

Note: this question is now worth 5 marks.

Task

Identify the following for the sample question:

1. What is the purpose?
2. Who is the audience?
3. What is the context
4. What is the required text type?
5. What is the style?

10 Report

Purpose

* to present information about a class of things (to classify) OR
* to describe the way things are
* to organise facts
* to draw conclusions

Structure

* general statement or classification
* series of paragraphs that describes
* logical progression
* concluding statement or summary

Language features

* factual with supporting evidence, such as statistics, examples
* objective language
* linking words (for example, *διότι, επειδή, επιπλέον, ωστόσο, με άλλα λόγια, επομένως, συμπερασματικά*)

Sample question

Write 100–150 words in GREEK. A group of exchange students has just returned to Greece after spending a month visiting your school. Write a report for your school magazine in which you describe their impressions of Australia.

2004 Higher School Certificate Examination, Modern Greek Continuers, Section III, Question 11(b) (6 marks) © NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for and on behalf of the Crown in right of the State of New South Wales, 2004

Note: this question is now worth 5 marks.

Task

Identify the following for the sample question:

1. What is the purpose?
2. Who is the audience?
3. What is the context
4. What is the required text type?
5. What is the style?

11 Script of an interview

Purpose

* to find out information (for example a story or a response)
* to communicate ideas, opinions and attitudes
* to draw conclusions

Structure

* salutations
* clear idea of the purpose of the interview (*Θα ήθελα να μιλήσω για...*)
* question and response sequence If writing horizontally, initials followed by a colon can be used, for example A: and B:
* use of filler expressions (*Στην πραγματικότητα, Είναι γνωστό ότι, Είμαι της γνώμης*)
* conclusion (for example, *Σας ευχαριστώ για το χρόνο σας!)*

Language features

* question forms (by the interviewer)
* register – use polite language (for example, *Εσείς*)
* phrases to delve deeper (for example, *Τι σκέφτεστε για*...)
* transition strategies when switching topics (*Ας περάσουμε στο επόμενο θέμα)*

Sample question

Write approximately 200 words in GREEK. You have interviewed a youth group leader for your local newspaper. Write the script of the interview in which the leader reflects on the experience of working with young people.

2015 Higher School Certificate Examination, Spanish Continuers, Section III, Question 13(a) (10 marks) © NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for and on behalf of the Crown in right of the State of New South Wales, 2015

Task

Identify the following for the sample question:

1. What is the purpose?
2. Who is the audience?
3. What is the context
4. What is the required text type?
5. What is the style?

12 Script of a speech/talk

Purpose

* to communicate ideas, opinions and attitudes
* to entertain
* to persuade
* to welcome
* to thank

Structure

* salutations (for example, *Αγαπητοί Κύριοι/Αγαπητές Κυρίες, Αγαπητοί φίλοι/Αγαπητές φίλες*)
* introductory statement of purpose (*Σήμερα θα σας μιλήσω, Το θέμα της ομιλίας μου είναι*)
* ideas and information organised and linked
* concluding remarks (*Κλείνοντας, Ευχαριστώ θερμά για την προσοχή σας, Ευχαριστώ που με ακούσατε*)

Language features

* choice of expressions to engage the audience
* descriptive words
* range of tenses
* usually subjective language (this depends on the context)

Sample question

Write approximately 200 words in GREEK. You are to deliver a speech at the birthday celebration of someone special to you. Write the script of the speech in which you reflect on the impact he/she has had on your life.

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Task

Identify the following for the sample question:

1. What is the purpose?
2. Who is the audience?
3. What is the context
4. What is the required text type?
5. What is the style?