

LINKS TO:

Stage 2, Module 10

Learning Object 4: Are there other ways of being?

Exercise 1

1.1 Which thank-you message is more formal?

Answer:

Text 2, the note to Ibu Tobing, is the more formal of the two texts. The register of this text is formal and respectful, in contrast to Text 1, which is an email between Peter and a fellow male student. In this email, the register used is more informal and colloquial, as is evidenced by the number of abbreviations and the overall casual tone.

1.2 List at least four differences between these two thank-you messages.

Answer:

The differences between Text 1 and Text 2 include:

- the formatting and overall layout
- the level of formality in the language used
- the level of familiarity and the respectful tone
- the medium of communication used.

While different, it is important to note that both of the texts suit the nature and circumstances of the topic, and the relationship between the writer and the recipient.

Exercise 2

2.1 Help Peter decide on the best way to thank his hockey coach.

Sample answer:

Making choices table	
Choice 1	A text message
Possible consequences of choice 1	A text message could be viewed by the coach as too informal, casual, and lacking in respect.
Choice 2	An email
Possible consequences of choice 2	An email, no matter how polite or well-written, may be viewed by the coach as too impersonal and a token gesture.
Choice 3	A thank-you card
Possible consequences of choice 3	A nice thank-you card from individual players, or the team, would be appreciated as a sign of gratitude. It adds a personal touch and can also be displayed at home, or at the workplace, as a reminder of the respect in which he is held by the team players.
Choice 4	A formal letter
Possible consequences of choice 4	A formal letter of gratitude is probably a little over-the-top for a situation such as shouting the team to ice cream. Although it would be appreciated, it would not be as lasting and durable as a thank-you card can, or able to be shared.

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Step 3

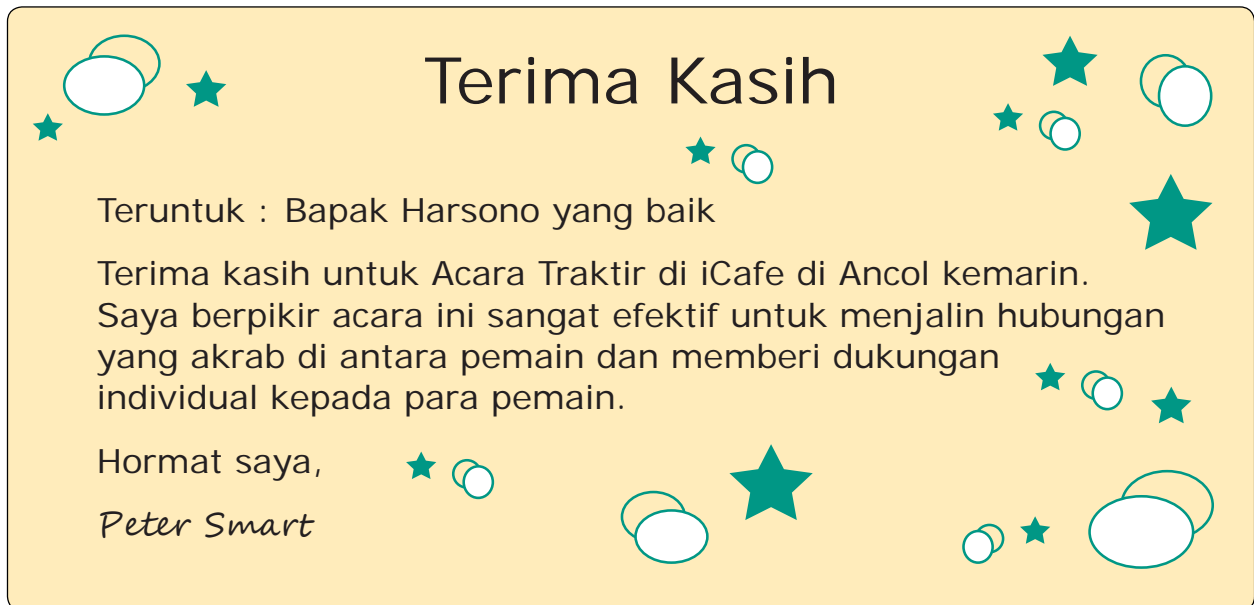
Which choice?

Which choice of text type did you make, and how did this affect the language used to write the 'thank you' message?

The most suitable text type would be a thank-you card. The choice of language would still be formal and respectful, but a card would add a more personal touch, because it could be signed by an individual player or by the entire team.

2.2 Write Peter's expression of gratitude to Pak Harsono using your choice of text type.

Sample answer:



Exercise 3

3.1.1 Identify the text type.

Answer:

The text type used is an SMS.

3.1.2 What are the features in this text that indicate to you the particular text type?

Sample answer:

The use of abbreviations and emoticons are features which indicate that this text is an SMS. From my online research into Indonesian SMS language, it is interesting to note that Indonesians adopt most of their abbreviations from English. In this particular SMS, CU (see you) has been borrowed from English.

3.1.3 What is the relationship between the participants? How do you know?

Sample answer:

The relationship between the participants in this exchange is close and intimate, as is evidenced by Nina's use of highly informal, colloquial language.

3.2.1 Help Nina decide on the appropriate text type and way to thank Mr and Mrs Smart.

Sample answer:

Jakarta, 20 Agustus 2011

Yth. Bapak dan Ibu Smart
Jalan Kedoya Angsana No.22
Jakarta Barat 11610

Bapak dan Ibu Smart yang terhormat,

Dengan surat ini saya mengucapkan terima kasih untuk hadiah ulang tahun Smart eTab.

Komputer tablet ini sangat berguna bagi saya karena dapat mengakses puluhan ribu aplikasi yang dapat saya gunakan untuk segala keperluan saya, terutama di bidang pendidikan. Sejak menerimanya, saya membawanya ke sekolah setiap hari untuk menggantikan buku-buku catatan saya. Sekarang Smart eTab itu menjadi sahabatku yang paling dekat dan saya memakainya sebagai diari elektronik juga.

Sekali lagi terima kasih untuk hadiah yang bermanfaat dan khusus ini. Saya benar-benar menyukainya.

Hormat saya,

Nina Sugianto

3.2.2 Which text type did you decide would be appropriate for Nina to use to thank Mr and Mrs Smart?

Sample answer:

The most appropriate text type for Nina to use to thank Mr and Mrs Smart would be a formal letter.

3.2.3 Why did you choose this text type?

Sample answer:

This text type was selected because it is the most appropriate when expressing gratitude to respected adults. In this particular situation, it demonstrates that Nina was so appreciative of her gift that she went to all the trouble of writing a formal letter of thanks. The next best option, a thank-you card, might also have sufficed, but, considering the expensive nature of the gift, a formal letter is more appropriate.

3.2.4 How does the thank-you message compare to the one sent to Peter and Anna in Exercise 3.1?

Sample answer:

The formal letter sent to Mr and Mrs Smart is very different from the informal SMS message sent to Anna and Peter, which included a number of abbreviations and emoticons. While an SMS would be appropriate for thanking friends of your own age for their birthday gift, it certainly would not be appropriate to use this medium or language when thanking a respected adult.