

**Text type: Blog (entry):** blogs are mainly discussion or informational journals published on the World Wide Web; they are updated frequently and everybody can contribute to them by posting an entry, commenting on previous entries, ...

Function: to express one's own opinion/thoughts on a topic, a newspaper article, a book, film, TV show, ...		
STRUCTURE	LANGUAGE	TO BE AVOIDED
<p>Depends largely on the input text and the task; but the text should</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be written with a specific audience in mind</li> <li>• be informative and clear in language and content</li> <li>• contain complete thoughts which the reader can follow easily</li> <li>• be structured and divided into clear paragraphs with a topic sentence in each paragraph</li> <li>• begin with the most important thought or idea the blogger wants to present his audience</li> <li>• capture and maintain the readers' interest and attention throughout the entry</li> <li>• end with a conclusion that invites further comments or reactions from other bloggers</li> </ul>	<p>The aim is to write a clear and comprehensible text which is interesting and conversational</p> <p><b>Dos:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use first and second person pronouns ("I, you") to make the entry personal</li> <li>• Use conjunctions to improve the flow of statements and make reading more interesting</li> <li>• Use vivid words, expressions, modifiers (and images)</li> </ul> <p><b>Register:</b> varies depending on the input text and the task ; frequently informal/colloquial</p>	<p><b>Do not</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be rude or offensive</li> <li>• use swear words</li> <li>• post texts which are unkind or uncomplimentary; be especially careful with topics like sex, age, race, religion, nationality</li> <li>• use jargon or confusing abbreviations</li> <li>• bend grammar and/or punctuation rules so that the entry is insulting or hard to follow</li> <li>• switch tenses without good reason</li> <li>• overload the text with complex structures; clauses involving participles with their own subject<sup>1</sup> and non-defining relative clauses, for example should be used sparingly</li> <li>• waffle</li> <li>• copy from the input text or include lengthy and unnecessary quotes (plagiarise)</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> e.g. "The weather being rather wet, we decided to stay at home." It might be better to write "We decided to stay at home because the weather was wet."