INSTRUCTIONAL TEXTS AND THEIR FUNCTIONS

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Annotation

This article is about functions and descriptions of instructional texts in English language.

Key words: instruction, description, preparation, perform, process, indecations.

An instructional text is a text that presents the reader with instructions on how to assemble an article, perform an experiment, build an artifact, organize a game or any other type of process that involves following specific instructions to achieve it. It is often a type of text that is related to the children's environment, although it is certainly of social circulation to a greater extent. In other words, we are talking about a text in which the purpose is to provide a teaching through a series of indications to the receiver or reader, who learns how to carry out a certain activity or process. Since it can be aimed at a very wide audience, it is crucial that it uses the simplest, clearest and most precise language possible.[1]

Instructive text types are a critical part of written communication, designed to provide guidance, directions, or explanations. They serve as a means to convey information in a clear and concise manner, enabling readers to understand and follow specific instructions. There are several common types of instructive texts, each with its unique purpose and structure.

One of the most prevalent instructive text types is the procedural text. This type of text is used to outline a sequence of steps to achieve a specific task or goal. Procedural texts are commonly found in instructional manuals, recipes, and technical guides. Their purpose is to provide clear, step-by-step instructions to help the reader accomplish a particular action or process. For instance, a cooking recipe is a classic example of a procedural text, as it provides a precise sequence of steps to prepare a dish.[2]

Instructional texts usually have the following characteristics:

- they use a precise and concrete language, since the text must be clear and easy to understand, for which the denotative sense of the words is prioritized;
- they tend to use infinitives (open, turn on, exit)conjugated verbs in the imperative mood (open, turn on, exit) or impersonal forms (opens, turns on, comes out);

- when they use conjugated verbs, the prevailing grammatical persons are the second, both singular and plural. (connect, bake, respect), and the first of the plural (let's connect, bake, respect);
- they usually incorporate ordering connectors (first, then, then, last);
- they are usually objective and anonymous texts, since what is important is not the author or the style, but its functionality;
- they have a well-organized structure, but it can be highly variable. They can include sections, subsections, enumerations, numbered lists, among other resources;
- many times, the texts are accompanied by drawings, graphics and iconic language, with the aim of guaranteeing the understanding of the message;
- in instructional texts that address complex topics, technical terms often appear, that is, technical words specific to a particular field.[3]

Examples of instructional texts.

Manual of use of an appliance Atma LI8410/LI8420Blender.

Functioning:

1. Place the jug on the body of the appliance. Turn gently to the left.

2. To turn the appliance on, turn the knob to the desired speed.

3. To mix the ingredients slowly, turn the knob to the "P" position.

Source: Atma

Cooking Recipe: Caprese potato omelet.

Ingredients:

onion

100 g of hydrated dried tomatoes

Fresh basil

½ kilo of potatoes

100 g gruyere cheese, cubed

6 eggs

salt

Process:

1. Cut the onion into feathers and saute in a pan until it is golden in color.

2. At the same time, cut the potatoes into cubes and fry them in very hot oil.

3. In a bowl, beat the 6 eggs so that they are integrated but do not incorporate air.

4. Add the hydrated tomatoes cut into strips, chopped fresh basil, the cheese cubes, the already fried potato and the onion.

5. Integrate and let rest for a few minutes so that the potato absorbs part of the egg.

6. In a very hot frying pan, cook the mixture for about five minutes, turn carefully with the help of a plate and cook for two more minutes to finish.

Rules of conduct: Standards of conduct.
The United Nations expects all peacekeeping personnel to uphold the highest standards of conduct and conduct themselves in a disciplined and professional manner at all times.
Our staff must:
- Respect local laws, customs and practices.
- Treat the people of the host country with respect, courtesy and consideration.
- Act with fairness, integrity and tact.
Source: United Nations – Peacekeeping

How to get to a place: How to get to Carmel?
- By boat.
The Casciola company has regular frequency services between Carmelo and Tigre, a city near Buenos Aires. From Buenos Aires, you can take a ship to Colonia del Sacramento, and from there a bus to Carmelo.
- By car and bus.
To get to Carmelo from Montevideo or the east of the country, you have to take Route 1 and then Route 21. The distance between Montevideo and Carmelo is 236 kilometers. From the north coast of the country (and international crossings), you must take routes 2 and 21. From the Fray Bentos bridge it is 136 kilometers to Carmelo.
Source: Trip to Uruguay

Instructions for use of a sunscreen: Sun Protect – SPF 50.
How to use:
1.   Shake the container before use.
2. Apply the cream generously all over the body 20 minutes before exposing yourself to the sun, avoiding contact with the eyes and inhalation of the product.
3. Reapply the cream in the same way every two hours.
4. Reapply the cream after swimming, sweating profusely or drying, so that the protection maintains its effectiveness.
In our daily lives, we use instructive texts a lot, and through this text analysis, we have once again examined their functional features. Linguistically, they are often directed to the second grammatical person, in addition to the use of verbs in the imperative form, for example; mix all the ingredients, keep in a cool dark place, etc. Also, since instructive texts can be intended

for a very wide audience, it is very important to use the simplest and most precise language when writing them.

References

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