

## Recognizing Formal and Informal Language Features

As you read the following sentences, rate the sentences on a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 is completely informal and 5 is extremely formal. Share your ratings with a few of your classmates.

Then discuss what makes a sentence more formal and what makes a sentence less formal.

Dude, do you wanna come over to my house to watch movies later?

Would you be interested in watching a movie later?

Do you want a guarantee for your new phone?

Would you be interested in purchasing a guarantee with your new phone?

Can I get a cheeseburger and fries?

I'd like a cheeseburger and fries, please.

This TV show totally sucks.

I'm not a fan of that show.

I find that particular show to be rather off-putting.

She was unable to complete the assignment on time.

She couldn't do the work.

I don't know why they put up with that.

It's unclear why the organizers tolerated the problem for so long.

Well, we could go tomorrow.

It's possible that the weather will permit us to travel tomorrow.

You know, the homework is a lot harder than it looks.

According to many students, the assignment was much more difficult than it first appeared.

You could call your doctor if you feel sick.

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The doctor should be notified if the patient's health deteriorates.

I think that was a lame excuse.

The reasons provided were unsatisfactory.

Substantial revisions are needed before the project can be considered complete.

They'll have to do a lot of work to bring that project up to par.

I am a great candidate for the position because of my significant office experience, strong language skills, and sense of organization.

I think can do the job because I've done that sort of work in the past, I have an awesome vocabulary, and I'm really well-organized.