

Textploitation

What have you read today?

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Where do you think the following sentences have come from?

Hey what's up?
You around today?
Probably pop in later on so
let me know what your up to.

Doncha' wish your girlfriend was
hot like me?

Children must be accompanied
by an adult at all times

Attorney accidentally sues himself

By Steve Korris

Match them to the following text types:

- 1) Headline
- 2) Song title
- 3) Text message
- 4) Warning sign

What features of the sentences helped you?

Text Types

(1) Songs

Very often songs write spoken English. This can look like slang at first but really, it's just natural speech.

Can you rewrite the song title? What two words are joined together?

(2) Text Messages

Sometimes English speakers remove words from text messages so they can write faster. They also sometimes make little mistakes.

Can you find missing words or mistakes?

(3) Headlines

Headlines often remove words like articles and prepositions to save space. They also talk about past events in the present tense.

Can you rewrite the headline so that it is grammatically correct?

(4) Warning Signs:

Warning signs very often use the passive voice. Can you change this to the active voice? Does it have exactly the same meaning?

Vocab:

- 1) Verb: take someone to court –
- 2) Informal adj: beautiful/handsome –
- 3) Informal question: how are you doing?
- 4) Verb: to go somewhere quickly –
- 5) Informal prepositional phrase: doing –
- 6) Noun: Lawyer –

Textploitation

Text Types

Practice:

What verb from the previous exercises could fit in all the sentences below (you may need to change the tenses):

- 1) I just need to _____ into the shops and get some milk.
- 2) John's just _____ to the loo, he'll be back in a moment.
- 3) I'm just going to _____ upstairs and get my coat. I'll be right back.

What word is commonly used alongside this verb to highlight that this action will not take long?

Practice 2:

Can you rewrite the following text to make it more natural?

Dear John,
I hope you are doing well. Are you busy on Saturday? I am asking because I am going to my cousin's for dinner and wondered if you wanted to join me. Please let me know as soon as possible.
Kind regards,
David

Practice 3:

How do you think the following sentences would be pronounced in natural speech? Would any words be joined together?

- 1) Do you want to get a coffee after class?
- 2) What did you think of the film?
- 3) Do you ever wonder why people keep employing Kevin Costner?

Listen and check.