

# *Writing an Explanation*

## *Purpose:*

*To tell how or why things occur.*

Study*ladder*

*Why is it so?*



# *Examples of Different Types of Explanations:*

*scientific explanations,  
spoken explanations*



# Structure:

## 1) Identifying Statement:

*Statement of phenomenon to identify the topic to be explained.*

## 2) Explanation Sequence:

*Series of paragraphs that explain how or why things happen in chronological order.*

## 3) Concluding Statement:

*A paragraph that summarises the explanation.*

## Structural Features:

**\* Use a title.**

**\* Organise information by paragraphs.**

## Language Features:

- \* *Uses passive voice.*
- \* *Uses present tense.*
- \* *Uses technical language.*
- \* *Uses words for cause and effect sequences such as 'as a result', 'because'*
- \* *Uses noun groups and abstract nouns.*
- \* *Uses action verbs.*

## Questions To Ask Yourself:

*What happened? Why did it happen? How did it happen?  
What scientific terms do I need to use for this topic? Do I  
need to include a glossary of these terms?*