

## Lesson 5 – Resource Sheet 1

### From mountains to sea – A literacy focus

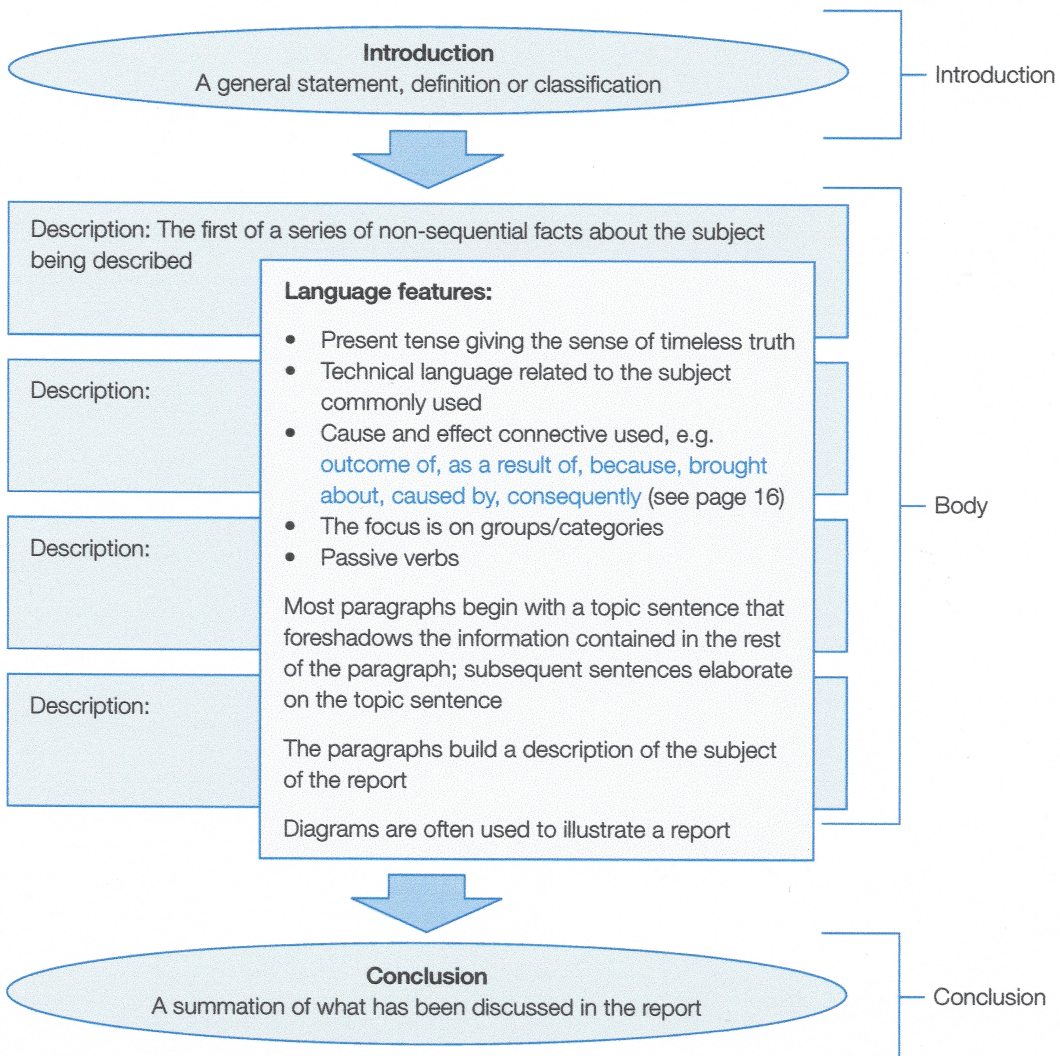
#### Writing as descriptive report

#### Purpose

A report presents information about a subject.

#### Structure


When writing a report, you need to think about the elements shown in this diagram.



# Example descriptive report

## Example 1

**Glaciers**



**Figure 1.7.1** Hubbard Glacier, Alaska, USA

Opening statement, which includes a definition → **Glaciers** are slow-moving rivers of compacted snow and ice. They form when the compacted snow, which has accumulated over many years, gradually moves downhill under the force of gravity.

Topic sentence previewing what the paragraph will elaborate on → Glaciers are very effective at eroding and transporting rock. The surface of the land is scratched and worn down by rock fragments that have been plucked from the ground and frozen into the base of the glacier. This process is known as **abrasion**.

A series of paragraphs related to the subject matter of the report

Technical language → The most spectacular landform features of glacial landscapes are **U-shaped valleys**. During periods of glacial activity, glaciers deepen and widen the valleys once occupied by rivers. **Hanging valleys** form where smaller (tributary) glaciers join a larger glacier.

Technical language → Other erosional features associated with the process of glaciation include **cirques, arêtes and horns** (pyramidal peaks). **Fjords** are formed when rising sea levels flood the valleys once occupied by glaciers.

Technical language → The rocks that are picked up and transported by the ice can be carried long distances before they are deposited, forming landform features known as **moraines**.

Technical language → Glaciers continue to sculpt the earth's surface in those regions where it is cold enough for ice and snow to accumulate over a long period of time. Today, major glacier fields are found in the Himalayas, the South American Andes, the European Alps, the North American Rockies and New Zealand's Southern Alps.

A conclusion to, or summary of, the subject matter of the report

Present (timeless) tense

Technical language

Technical language

Technical language

Technical language