



## Science and Innovation

Report: reviewing a robotics workshop

### 1. Lead-in discussion

Talk with a partner before you write.

1. What makes a science workshop exciting and useful?
2. How can students learn problem-solving through practical tasks?
3. What difficulties might happen when students use new equipment?

#### Exercise 6 at a glance

Write a formal or semi-formal report.  
Use a clear title and subheadings.  
Cover the task fully.  
Develop ideas with details and examples.  
Make practical recommendations.

### 2. Exam-style task

Your Head of Science has asked for a report about a robotics workshop held at school. Write a report for the Head of Science about the workshop.

**In your report, you should describe what students found useful, mention any difficulties during the workshop, and suggest how future science workshops could be improved.**

Here are some comments from students to help you:

'The hands-on building task helped me test ideas.'

'The coding challenge made problem-solving clear.'

'Some instructions used difficult technical words.'

**Write about 120 to 160 words.**

### 3. Model report

#### Report on the Robotics Workshop

##### Introduction

This report reviews the robotics workshop held for Year 10 students last week. It describes what students found useful, mentions difficulties during the workshop and suggests improvements for future science events.

##### What students found useful

Students found the hands-on building task the most useful part of the workshop because it allowed them to test ideas immediately. The coding challenge was also valuable, as students had to adjust their instructions until the robot followed the correct route. This helped students see problem-solving as a process rather than a single answer.

##### Difficulties during the workshop

The main difficulty was that some groups had too little time to finish their final design. A few students also found the instructions confusing because the technical vocabulary had not been explained before the activity began.

##### Recommendations

It is recommended that future workshops begin with a short vocabulary introduction. More time should also be given for testing and improving designs so that students can learn from mistakes more effectively.

## 4. Explore the model: structure, content and register

Work with the model report. Underline, label or make short notes.

Focus	What to find	Done?
Report structure	Find the title, introduction, main sections and recommendations.	
Content point 1	Where does the writer show how students learnt through practical testing?	
Content point 2	Where does the writer develop a point about problem-solving?	
Content point 3	Where does the writer explain a difficulty linked to time or technical language?	
Audience and register	Where does the writer suggest changes that would support future learning?	
Development	Find one extra detail, example or effect that improves the answer.	

## 5. Language from the task prompts

The task prompts can guide your grammar and content choices. Notice which language each prompt naturally needs.

Prompt	Useful grammar	Why it fits	Example from the model
useful activities	because clauses + allowed to	You are explaining why a practical task helped students.	because it allowed them to...
difficulties	too + adjective + infinitive	You need to explain what made the workshop difficult.	too little time to finish...
future improvements	passive recommendations + so that	You are making suggestions linked to learning.	It is recommended that... / so that students can...

## 6. Make it formal and organised

Notice how report phrases organise the response. Underline one useful report move for each purpose.

Job	Useful report phrases
state the purpose	This report reviews... / describes... / suggests improvements...
explain usefulness	Students found... useful because... / was also valuable, as...
describe difficulties	The main difficulty was... / A few students also found...
link recommendation to learning	It is recommended that... / More time should also be given so that...

## 7. Vocabulary and useful report phrases

Use chunks that sound natural for this task. You can also upgrade your writing with precise words and phrases.

Purpose	Useful chunks / language	Add your own
describe the workshop	robotics workshop / hands-on building task coding challenge / correct route	
describe learning	test ideas immediately / adjust instructions problem-solving / process	
describe difficulties	too little time / final design technical vocabulary / confusing instructions	
make recommendations	vocabulary introduction / testing designs learn from mistakes / more effectively	
use precise report wording	future science events / technical vocabulary instructions / designs / effectively	

## 8. Plan your own report

Use the same task, or change the details to another science workshop, invention challenge or innovation project.

Prompt	My idea	Useful language
opening		
what students found useful		
difficulties during the workshop		
recommendations		

