

ENGB3 – Language Acquisition (Section A): Developing Writing

Rothery's categories or genres for children's writing

Observation/comment

- Makes an observation and follows this with an evaluative comment

Recount

- Usually chronological sequence of events, e.g. recount of a school trip
- Written subjectively, "I"

Report

- Factual and objective description

Narrative

- A story genre, tending to follow the typical structure of a story

Britton's three modes of children's writing

Expressive – first mode to develop because it resembles speech. Uses first person and is usually based on personal preferences

Poetic – develops gradually, yet it's encouraged early on because of its creative aspect. Involves the crafting and shaping of language. Descriptive devices such as adjectives and phonological features such as rhyme

Transactional – develops last, when children have dissociated speech from writing. Third person used to create a detached tone. Formal sentence structures

Strategies for learning spelling

- Sounding out the words
- Clues from the word's meaning, making links with similar words
- Writing it down until it looks right
- Using grammatical knowledge to predict spellings
- Using a dictionary or spell-checker