

# Writing Genre Worksheet: Classification

When you classify, you break down your writing topic into smaller parts or categories. You identify, discuss and give details about the different parts to help your reader understand the larger whole.

- 1 Choose your topic carefully** Make sure your topic works for the analysis of parts or categories. Your topic needs to have the right amount of categories. Having too few won't result in enough information. Having too many weakens the focus and confuses the reader.

**Too few:** diet of the Australian redback spider

**Just right:** three kinds of football fans

**Too many:** ten types of trainers

- 2 Choose your categories carefully** It's very important to choose the right number and kind of categories. If you're doing a report about the climate of a certain region, make sure you include information on each of the seasons in that region. Or you might make up your own categories. For example, if you're writing about football fans, you might classify them into *part-time fans* or *true fanatics*. Develop each category separately, but make sure that your writing relates to the main idea (i.e. seasons in south-east Asia; three kinds of football fans, etc.).

- 3 Balance your information** In general, each of your categories should have a similar number of examples and details. When one category has fewer examples or details than the others, it seems weaker as a category.

- 4 Use the following expressions to introduce categories or categorise information:**

- belongs to
- is associated with
- the first kind
- can be divided into
- is a kind/type of of
- the second type
- falls under
- is related to
- the third group

## Try it!

Think of a topic that works well for classification. Then choose categories that are appropriate for your topic. Fill in the table.

Topic	Category
	a.
	b.
	c.