

**Text Structure and Language Features: Example 1**

**Character - Description  
Title**

**THE MOST IMPORTANT PERSON IN MY LIFE**

**Introduction to the subject**

The most important person in my life is my grandmother. She’s an old woman now and has white hair and lots of wrinkles, but she used to have black hair. It makes me feel sad to see her getting older.

**Description - includes physical appearance, personality traits and abilities**

Grandmother is shorter than me and a little plump. She has black eyes which look at you kindly and brownish skin. She is very quiet but I remember how she liked to hug me when I was upset or tired. I used to like that.

She is also a very generous person and is always giving presents to people. When we go to her house she often has food or sauces for us to take home and sometimes she has clothing for us as well. She makes the clothing herself because she likes to knit and sew, but she didn’t teach my mother to knit or sew and now my mother hates knitting and sewing. When my grandmother first came to New Zealand, she made clothes at home to sell at the markets. She worked very hard doing this and saved some money to buy a house.

When my sister and I were young, our mother worked as a scientist. Our grandmother looked after us while our mother was at work. She used to take us to the park and to the market and she played games with us and read stories to us. She was our best friend but I was too young to understand how wonderful she was.

**Concluding comment**

Grandmother doesn’t live with us at the moment but we telephone every day; however, as she is getting older I think one day soon she will come to live with us. Then I can help to look after her to thank her for looking after me.

**Language Features**

Use of relating verbs, e.g. is, had, has, was

Use of thinking and feeling verbs, e.g. liked, hates, think

Use of action verbs, e.g. makes, worked, looked after

Use of variety of adjectives, e.g. black, older, shorter, generous

Use of detailed noun groups, e.g. most important person in my life

Use of conjunctions, e.g. but, when

Use of pronouns to track subject i.e. referencing, e.g. she

Use of compound and complex sentences