

Functions of language

Language can be used to:

- Act on and give instructions
- Act on and make suggestions
- Ask and answer questions
- Challenge
- Clarify
- Converse
- Describe
- Discuss
- Evaluate
- Exchange ideas
- Explain
- Explore understanding
- Express emotion
- Give and act on instructions
- Give orders
- Hypothesise
- Imagine
- Initiate action or change
- Investigate
- Make oneself understood
- Negotiate
- Participate
- Persuade
- Plan
- Reason
- Reflect
- Rehearse roles or experience
- Report
- Request
- Reshape what is known or thought
- Share opinions, experiences or emotions
- Speculate
- State opinions
- Summarise
- Tell and listen to stories
- Think aloud
- Understand ideas
- Understand others