

## Writing in a clear and lively style

### 1) Interesting

Look at the wide range of contexts in which the versatile, but unhelpfully vague adjective "interesting" may be used, and in each case think of a clearer, more nuanced word. You may use the words in the box to help you if you wish:

lively	gloomy	idiosyncratic/eccentric	potentially suitable
disturbing	uncanny	inspirational	innovative

- a) Remember the interesting conversation we had last year about the threat of a Third World War.
- b) Building houses out of hemp, which is the world's second fastest growing plant after bamboo and which thus takes carbon from the air very rapidly, is an interesting way of preventing climate change.
- c) I read an interesting article yesterday that completely changed my outlook on life.
- d) It's really interesting that we share the same name and physical features, even though we're not related and grew up in different continents.
- e) We've had lots of interesting candidates and we'll be interviewing ten of them again next week.
- f) Michael Jackson, who slept in an oxygen tent and regularly played water polo with his pet monkey, Bubbles, certainly lived an interesting life.
- g) Tomorrow's discussion will be interesting, as the two main speakers have wildly different ideas about how education should develop over the next few decades.
- h) It was interesting to go to an English football match and hear 8 year olds shouting obscenities at the referee.

**What do the adjectives *enthraling*, *riveting*, *gripping*, *captivating* have in common? Any idea what *thrall*, *rivet*, *grip*, and *captive* mean? What kind of thing might they describe?**

**How about *thought-provoking*, *eye-opening*, *stimulating*, *intriguing*, do these have anything in common?**

*Interesting collocations: match the verbs on the left with an appropriate noun in the right-hand column*

to grab/hold	sb.'s appetite
to fire	sb.'s attention
to whet	sb.'s mind (inf.)
to pique	sb.'s imagination
to blow	sb.'s curiosity (or interest)

### 2) Important

Find other words for "very important" from these anagrams:

- a) nidsepsnabeli = i \_\_\_\_\_
- b) ruccial = \_\_\_\_\_
- c) lavit = \_\_\_\_\_
- d) leentiass = \_\_\_\_\_
- e) dmanoryat = m \_\_\_\_\_