

Informal and Formal Writing

Some words are fine for informal conversations and discussions. For formal writing, however, they should not be used.

Informal example: Her dad worked at a factory.

Formal example: Her father worked at a factory.

The word *dad* is used in a familiar way, which makes it sound informal. *Father* is a better word to use in formal writing.

Below are sentences that have informal words in them. Circle the informal word or words and rewrite the sentence in a formal style.

1) They bought an awesome house around the corner.

2) There were lots of people at the museum.

3) Jane ain't going to tell anyone.

4) Oscar started freaking out about the test.

5) When the cops arrived, the crook ran outside.

6) He checked his cell for any messages.

7) The family chilled by the pool all afternoon.

8) She bought a bunch of stuff at the mall.

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Actual student's sentences will vary. Examples of correct sentences.

1) They bought an awesome house around the corner.

They bought a wonderful house around the corner.

2) There were lots of people at the museum.

There were many people at the museum.

3) Jane ain't going to tell anyone.

Jane isn't going to tell anyone.

4) Oscar started freaking out about the test.

Oscar became anxious about the test.

5) When the cops arrived, the crook ran outside.

When the police arrived, the criminal ran outside.

6) He checked his cell for any messages.

He checked his cell phone for any messages.

7) The family chilled by the pool all afternoon.

The family relaxed by the swimming pool all afternoon.

8) She bought a bunch of stuff at the mall.

She bought a lot at the mall.
