6. Tables

A really useful type of graphic organiser (see previous post) is a table. Tables can be used in many different ways to organise information, from a simple gathering of information from a text looking for fact and opinion to more complicated comparison of different information.

Look at the examples below and try and think of ways in which you could use a table to organise information, plan an essay or presentation, revise for a test.

Eg. Scottish Independence

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Fact** | **Opinion** |
| Scotland has big industries such as oil and whisky | Scottish industries benefit UK more than Scotland |
| Scotland has its own parliament with responsibility for health and education among other things | Scotland has not enough control of important areas such as defence and budget setting |
|  | Scotland would be better off independent |
|  | Scotland would be financially insecure with no link to the rest of UK |

# Other T Tables could be:-

Animal / Vegetable

Red / Blue

3 letter words / 4 letter words

Formal language / Informal language

# More complex tables could look like this:-

Healthy food choices

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Food you often eat** | **It contains a lot of….** | **I eat it … every day / every week / once in a while** | **It is healthy** | **In future I will...** |
| Pizza | Wheat | Every week | A bit | Continue to eat |
| Chocolate | Sugar | Every day | Not really | Try to eat less |
| Lettuce | Fibre | Once in a while | Yes | I don’t like it |

You can see that very quickly you can have lots of information and lots to talk or write about.

Try using a table in one of your classes this week.