

Translating between Informal and Formal Style

The following sentences are written in an informal style. Working with a partner or in a small group, re-write each sentence in a formal style. See which group can come up with the most formal version.

1. Man, I'm starving! I'm gonna get something to eat and then call you back.
2. We gotta get this done before we can go anywhere.
3. When you write papers for class, you have to remember to use a more formal style than when you talk to your friends.
4. Lemme know if you need a hand with that.
5. You're wrong! I paid twenty-five bucks for that!

Invent your own sentences for your classmates to translate. Think of your recent conversations, emails, and text messages for ideas.

The following sentences are written in a formal style. Working with a partner or in a small group, re-write each sentence in an informal style. See which group can come up with the most casual version.

1. I would prefer that you turn down the volume on your television.
2. According to an eye witness, the event occurred at approximately 3:00 in the afternoon.
3. The project is to be completed by the end of the week.
4. Would you be available to attend the gathering tomorrow?
5. Students are required to report to their classrooms immediately upon entering the building.
6. Participants are invited to select the item of their choosing.

Invent your own sentences for your classmates to translate. Think of your recent conversations, emails, and text messages for ideas.