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Writing - Formal and Informal

20 Standard Phrases for Business Emails

a) Translate the following standard business English phrases into your L1:

- a) Just wanted to remind you about... b) Please see the attached document. c) Dear Mr. Jones.
- d) Let me know ASAP. e) I've attached the doc. f) I would be grateful if you could... g) All the best.
- h) Thank you very much for your prompt reply. i) Sorry for not being in touch earlier. j) Kind regards.
- k) Please accept our apologies for the late reply. I) I'm just getting back to you about... m) Hi Janet.
- n) Sorry, but we can't... o) Please would you confirm no later than the fourteenth. p) How are you?
 - q) Unfortunately, following a detailed consultation with the directors, it will not be possible to...
 - r) I am writing with regards to... s) I do hope this email finds you well. t) Can you send me...?

b) Add the phrases to the table below, writing the letters in the correct places:

| | | Formal: | Informal: |
|-----|--------------------|---------|-----------|
| 1. | Addressee | | |
| 2. | Greeting | | |
| 3. | Replying | | |
| 4. | Reason for Writing | | |
| 5. | Attachments | | |
| 6. | Apologising | | |
| 7. | Bad News | | |
| 8. | Requesting | | |
| 9. | Expectations | | |
| 10. | Final Greetings | | |

c) Write your own business email phrases in each column:

| | Formal: | Informal: |
|-----------------------|---------|-----------|
| 1. Addressee | | |
| 2. Greeting | | |
| 3. Replying | | |
| 4. Reason for Writing | | |
| 5. Attachments | | |
| 6. Apologising | | |
| 7. Bad News | | |
| 8. Requesting | | |
| 9. Expectations | | |
| 10. Final Greetings | | |

d) Write a formal email and an informal email using the phrases in a), then two more using your phrases.

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Answers:

a) Answers will vary.

b)

| | | Formal: | Informal: |
|-----|--------------------|---------|-----------|
| 1. | Addressee | c) | m) |
| 2. | Greeting | s) | p) |
| 3. | Replying | h) | I) |
| 4. | Reason for Writing | r) | a) |
| 5. | Attachments | b) | e) |
| 6. | Apologising | k) | i) |
| 7. | Bad News | q) | n) |
| 8. | Requesting | f) | t) |
| 9. | Expectations | 0) | d) |
| 10. | Final Greetings | j) | g) |

c) Answers will vary.

d) Answers will vary.