

**Teacher resource**

***Can Cards***

***Writing: Text types***

By Linda & Mike Dumbleton

Era Publications, 2009, ISBN: 9781741204643, soft cover, 50pp, \$24.95.

Reviewed by Chris Thompson, Brighton Secondary School

This teacher resource, written by two experienced South Australian literacy educators/consultants and published in South Australia, focuses on providing writing goals for students in ten different genres or text types. The genres included are: About the Author (biographical note); Discussion; Explanation; Exposition; Formal Letter ; Narrative; Newspaper Report; Procedure; Recount and Report. It is an easy-to-use goal setting system for primary and middle school students to assess their own writing and learning or to negotiate individual writing goals. Each section or text type is set out in the following way: brief description of purpose; list of important features; structure/sequence chart plus annotated hints; one or two annotated examples showing different levels of complexity; and a Can Card. The Can Cards are positive action statements, which are supportive of student-centred learning. Other features of the book include its use of student-friendly language, and its ability to cater for varying levels of capability within and across text types. There are three pages of Teacher Notes at the beginning which contain helpful information about methodology and how the record sheets at the end of the book might be used for assessment, recording and monitoring of student progress. *Can Cards* is a student-friendly, simple and consistent learning tool for successful writing. Overall, a most valuable and worthwhile resource for literacy/English teachers, which can be ordered from: [www.erapublications.com/content/159](http://www.erapublications.com/content/159)