

**1. Informal and Formal. Compare these two explanations of economics. What are the main differences?**

**Informal/Spoken.** Economics? Yes, well, ... economics is, I suppose, about people trying to... let me see... match up things that are scarce, you know, with things that they want, ...oh, yes, and how these efforts have an effect on each other ... through exchange, I suppose.

**Formal/Written.** Economics is the social science that studies how people attempt to accommodate scarcity to their wants and how these attempts interact through exchange.

**2. Differences between speech and writing. Decide which of the following features are typical of speech (S) and which for writing (W).**

Time-bound, dynamic

Space-bound, static

Particular addressee

Errors cannot be withdrawn

Looser construction, repetition, rephrasing

Comment clauses, intonation

Careful organization, compact expression

Many recipients in diverse setting

Extra linguistic cues (facial expression, gesture) to aid meaning

Errors can be eliminated

**3. Which sentences are formal (F) and which informal (I)?**

- a) The project will be completed next year.
- b) I wonder why he put up with those terrible conditions for so long.
- c) It has been proved that the arguments so far are without foundation.
- d) There are a number of reasons why the questionnaire should be revised.