**ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PROJECT WORK**

English Language Project Work

Christine McDonald

M
MACMILLAN

© Christine McDonald 1992

All rights reserved. No reproduction, copy or transmission of this publication may be made without written permission.

No paragraph of this publication may be reproduced, copied or transmitted save with written permission or in accordance with the provisions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, or under the terms of any licence permitting limited copying issued by the Copyright Licensing Agency, 90 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 9HE.

Any person who does any unauthorised act in relation to this publication may be liable to criminal prosecution and civil claims for damages.

First published 1992 by
THE MACMILLAN PRESS LTD
Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 2XS
and London
Companies and representatives
throughout the world

ISBN 978-0-333-54118-0 ISBN 978-1-349-22297-1 (eBook)
DOI 10.1007/978-1-349-22297-1

A catalogue record for this book is available
from the British Library

Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	vii
<i>List of cassette recordings</i>	viii
1 Introduction	1
2 Planning a timetable	3
3 Choosing a topic	10
4 Variations on a theme	16
4.1 Accents and dialects	16
4.2 Child language	18
4.3 Sports commentary	19
5 Deciding on an aim	20
6 Collecting data	26
7 Transcription	30
7.1 Spoken English	31
7.2 Conversation	38
7.3 Prosodic transcription	43
7.4 Phonetic transcription	64
8 Wider reading	80
9 Organising the write-up	84

10	A rough introduction	86
11	The description of material	90
12	The analysis	95
12.1	Paragraph structure	95
12.2	Subsections	97
12.3	Examples of organisation	106
12.4	Unique pattern of organisation	112
12.5	Presentation of findings	113
13	The evaluation	121
14	Checking and finalising	125
15	Completed projects	128
16	Conclusion	198
	<i>Bibliography</i>	200
	<i>Index</i>	202

Acknowledgements

In writing this book, I have been helped by many people and I should like to take this opportunity of thanking them.

Colleagues and students of Monkwearmouth College, Sunderland, have been of particular assistance. Thanks are due to Roger Brown and Vera Simpson for comments on earlier drafts, and to the many students who provided exemplar project work, in particular: Neil Barnes, David Boldon, Lynn Drinkald, Jánina Greenshields-Bell, Sharon Harper, Peter Houghton, Abbe Makinson, Andrew Mills, Joanne Hallett, Louise Pinkney and Kathryn Tutin.

Finally, the work would not have been possible without the support and encouragement of my husband, Ian, and the rest of my family.

The author and publishers wish to thank the following who have kindly given permission for the use of copyright material:

Bobby Thompson Record Co. for *The Little Waster*; Broad Laboratories, Slough, Berkshire, and the Metro Radio Group plc for the extract entitled *Dentrex Toothpaste*; R. H. Patterson & Co. Ltd for the extract entitled *Patterson's Showroom*; Air Canada, British Airways, British Midland, Dan Air, GKN Automotive AG and TWA for transcriptions of speech between air traffic controllers and pilots; the University of Oklahoma Press for the Chaucer facsimile from the Hengwrt manuscript, from *The Canterbury Tales* (ed. Paul G. Ruggiers, 1979).

Every effort has been made to trace all copyright-holders, but if any have been inadvertently overlooked the publishers will be pleased to make the necessary arrangement at the first opportunity.

List of cassette recordings

1	Unprepared speech – transcription of a spontaneous monologue	35
2	Football commentary – a transcription with an invented convention	37
3	Radio phone-in – conversation transcription	41
4	Football commentary – general prosodic transcription	48
5	Extracts – transcriptions involving stress	53
6	Radio advertisements – transcription with tone units and prominent words	57
7	Extracts – transcriptions with tones	60
8	Language of a two-year-old – selective phonetic transcription	71
9	Language of a NE club comedian – detailed phonetic transcription	73
10	Airspeak	134
11	The language of some students with learning difficulties and their teacher	157