Keeping It Casual?

Some words that are appropriate in casual conversation with close friends or family are not appropriate for formal writing.

**Informal example:** Pops works in real estate.

**Formal example:** My father works in real estate.

The word *Pops* is used in a familiar way, which makes it sound informal. *Father* is a better choice for formal writing.

**DIRECTIONS:** The sentences below have informal words in them. Circle the informal word or words and rewrite the sentence in a formal style.

1. Timothy has a real chip in his shoulder about losing the game to Carl.

2. Jane hit the motherlode when she got that job.

3. No one trusts Roger since he ratted on his friends.

4. Edna said she would whip something up for us, and disappeared into the kitchen.

5. Paul was tired, so he was really dragging his feet today.

6. There wasn’t a shred of evidence against him.