

Text Structure Quick Guide

By: Ms. Jaształ

Informative text is structured in numerous ways for their intended purposes and audiences. Here is a quick reference for you about text structure. Sometimes, there are key words you can spot in the writing to make you aware of the text structure.

<p>Main Idea and Supporting Details:</p> <p>In this case, text is structured by a main idea backed up by supporting ideas. Let's say you read a biography about a famous scientist or president in history—facts are stated and organized in chapters referring to childhood, education, family life, and specific inventions or breakthroughs.</p> <p>Within chapters, there are numerous main ideas and supporting details you encounter as well.</p>	<p>Cause and Effect:</p> <p>Obviously when you encounter writing that is structured as cause and effect, you spot a problem, issue, or situation that caused other events to occur.</p> <p>When a scientist works on a specific invention, the process is not simple. Attempts are not successful at first—and something caused those attempts to not be successful. The effect was that the scientist was determined and driven to follow through with his or her plans. The invention had to be altered and updated based on problems the scientist faced.</p> <p>Words like <i>because</i>, <i>due to</i>, <i>as a result</i>, or <i>consequently</i> indicate cause and effect.</p>
<p>Compare and Contrast:</p> <p>When text is structured to compare and contrast, there are a few different individuals, concepts, or events presented. Comparisons are what they have in common. Contrasts are what they do not have in common.</p>	<p>Problem and Solution:</p> <p>When text is structured as problem and solution, you can pinpoint a problem or issue that occurred, followed by a proposed solution or solutions. Think about problems people feel very strongly about—environmental or educational, for example. People are always working hard to propose solutions to the problems individuals face in society.</p>
<p>Sequence:</p> <p>Sequential text structure shows a series of steps or events. If you read a recipe or tutorial, obviously you are looking at a series of steps. When you read a mystery, you have to pinpoint a series of events to find out who committed the act.</p>	<p>Opinion:</p> <p>Opinion writing is based on individuals' feelings regarding a topic. It is subjective rather than objective.</p> <p>When you read a travel, movie, or book review online, you may realize some people rate something five stars while others may rate it one star. Their criteria and expectations were different. Some people are more enticed by specific movie and</p>

	<p>elements than others. Some individuals crave more action while others may desire a greater focus on character development.</p> <p>When candidates for a public office hold a debate, they are voicing their opinions about issues. They back up their explanations with facts, but the facts are held in higher or lesser regards depending on the candidate's political background.</p>
--	---

© 2015 Ms. Jaształ of Teachingvision.net. All rights reserved.

Font used from my computer: Goudy Old Style