## **TEXT STRUCTURE CLUES**

STRUCTURE	DESCRIPTION	VISUALS	SIGNAL WORDS AND PHRASES	ANSWERS THE QUESTION	CHALLENGES OR POTENTIAL MISUNDERSTANDINGS
Cause and Effect Cause #1 Cause #2 Cause #3	The author explains how one event or action leads to another.	<ul> <li>cause/effect charts</li> <li>flow charts</li> <li>quantitative charts and graphs</li> <li>before/after charts</li> </ul> Chapters and headings may name different causes or effects.	because if/then reason as a result of so thus therefore since led to due to	<ul> <li>What happened?</li> <li>Why did it happen?</li> <li>What caused it?</li> <li>What was the result?</li> </ul>	Texts with a cause/effect structure may be presented chronologically. Cause/effect is the primary structure if the text answers WHY something happened.
Chronological	The author shares the details of a story or event in the order that they happened.	<ul> <li>dates</li> <li>timelines</li> <li>sequence charts</li> <li>pictures in time order</li> </ul> Chapters and headings may be ordered by time.	before during after next then later meanwhile first, second last when finally in <date></date>	<ul> <li>When did it happen?</li> <li>What was the order of events?</li> </ul>	Some texts present a problem/solution or cause/effect structure chronologically. Process/sequence structure is related to a chronological structure. The key difference is that chronological structure talks about events while Process structure presents steps.
Process / Sequence	The author explains the steps or stages of a process.	<ul> <li>numbered steps</li> <li>diagrams</li> <li>flow charts</li> <li>recipe</li> </ul>	first, second next before after following at the same time last when	<ul> <li>What is the order of steps?</li> <li>How do I do X?</li> <li>How does this process work?</li> <li>What is the process for this to happen?</li> </ul>	Process/sequence structure is related to a chronological structure. The key difference is that Chronological structure talks about events while Process structure presents steps.

STRUCTURE	DESCRIPTION	VISUALS	SIGNAL WORDS AND PHRASES	ANSWERS THE QUESTION	CHALLENGES OR POTENTIAL MISUNDERSTANDINGS
Description	The author provides details about who, what, where, when, or how.	<ul> <li>definitions</li> <li>text boxes</li> <li>subheadings</li> </ul> Sections may include short entries on wide range of subtopics.	characteristics for example includes parts features	<ul> <li>What are important aspects of this topic?</li> <li>What are the characteristics of this topic?</li> </ul>	
Compare / Contrast	The author describes what is the same and different between topics, events, ideas, concepts or information.	<ul> <li>comparison diagrams</li> <li>Venn diagrams</li> <li>before/after charts</li> <li>images</li> <li>Sections may alternate to show different topics.</li> </ul>	on the one hand on the other hand although nevertheless as opposed to yet either/or however similarly both neither at the same time same/different difference unlike versus compared to as opposed to similar to/ similarly	<ul> <li>How are these topics, events, ideas, details similar?</li> <li>How are these topics, events, ideas, details different?</li> </ul>	
Problem / Solution	The author presents a problem and offers a solution.	<ul> <li>problem-solution diagrams</li> <li>Sections may be organized by questions or parts of a problem</li> </ul>	problem solution because since as a result this resulted in dilemma choice answer discovery therefore	<ul> <li>What is the problem?</li> <li>How was it solved?</li> <li>What is the solution?</li> </ul>	Texts with a problem/solution structure may be presented chronologically. Problem/solution is the primary structure if the text answers the question HOW something is resolved or fixed.