## Text Structures Reference Sheet

Chronological (Sequential) Order	Compare and Contrast	Problem and Solution	Cause and Effect	Description	
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Describes something in order. Can be in the order of:  time (beginning to end) steps (how to do something)	Shows how two or more things are like and/or how they are different.	Tells about a problem (and sometimes says why there is a problem) then gives one or more possible solutions.	Cause is why something happened. Effect is what happened as a result of something else. (Sometimes the effect is listed first)	A topic, idea, person, place, or thing is described by listing its features, characteristics, or examples.	
SIGNAL QUESTIONS					
What items, events, or steps are listed? Do they have to happen in this order? Do they always happen in this order?	What things are being compared? In what ways are they alike? In what ways are they different?	What is the problem? Why is this a problem? Is anything being done to try to solve the problem? What can be done to solve the problem?	What happened? Why did it happen? What caused it to happen?	What specific topic, person, idea, or thing is being described? How is it being described (what does it look like, how does it work, what does it do, etc.)? What is important to remember about it?	
SIGNAL WORDS					
First Second Next Then Before After Finally Following Not long after Now Soon	Same as Similar Alike As well as Not onlybut also Both Instead of Eitheror On the other hand Different from As opposed to Compared to	Question is Dilemma is The puzzle is To solve this One answer is One reason for the problem is	So Because Since Therefore Ifthen This led to Reason why As a result May be due to Effect of Consequently For this reason	For instance Such as To begin with An example To illustrate Characteristics *Look for the topic word (or a synonym or pronoun) to be repeated	

If the author wants you to know	The text structure will be	
How or why an event happened; what resulted from an event	Cause-Effect	
The order of events/steps in a process	Chronological Order/Sequencing	
How two or more things are alike/different	Compare/Contrast	
How something looks, moves, works, etc.; a definition or characterization	Description/Categorization	
What's wrong and how to fix it	Problem-Solution	
Why a point or idea should be supported; what's wrong with an idea	Position-Reason	

## **BRAIN FRAMES!**

Event





