

Informational Text Structures	Structure Type	Definition and Purpose	Signal Words/Phrases	My Thoughts
	Question and Answer	one or more questions about one topic. <b>Purpose:</b> to introduce a topic by asking questions followed by the answer.	<b>Clue words:</b> what, how, why, if, what would, when, where	
	Listing	list of facts on one topic. <b>Purpose:</b> to relate ideas, examples, characteristics, or features together. No specific order.	<b>Clue words:</b> and, in addition, besides, as well as, again, also, too, likewise, another, furthermore, other, one, many, various, several	
	Description	explains, defines, or illustrates a concept of one or more topics. <b>Purpose:</b> to present information about a topic or gives characteristics of the topic or setting. Explains, defines, or illustrates a concept or topic.	<b>Clue words:</b> the features are, some characteristics are, for example, for instance, main, such as, this particular, to illustrate, is a feature of	
	Time Order	presents information in a time order. <b>Purpose:</b> to help the reader comprehend the steps or process the information.	<b>Clue words:</b> first, second, next, then, after, finally, after, before, on (date), last of all, following, meanwhile, now	
	Cause and Effect	presents the reasons an event a happened and its results. <b>Purpose:</b> to present ideas grouped in a sequence so that a causal relationship is either stated or implied. How events are related.	<b>Clue Words:</b> because, as a result, consequently, therefore, reasons why, since, due to, so, lead to, this is why, the reason, result in, consequences <b>Introductory Phrases:</b> Some of the causes are; Because of; As a result of; The effects are	
	Problem Solution	describes a problem and a solution. May be in inverse order. <b>Purpose:</b> presents problem, question, or remark and suggests possible solutions.	<b>Clue Words:</b> problem, solution, puzzle, dilemma, question, answer, the trouble, answer in response, therefore, this led to, thus <b>Introductory Statements:</b> The problem is; A solution might be; The answer to the question is	
	Compare Contrast	<b>Purpose:</b> shows how two or more things or ideas are alike or different. Presents similarities and differences between two objects, places, events, ideas, or people.	<b>Clue Words:</b> <b>Compare:</b> alike, same, likewise, similarly, both, also, too, and <b>Contrast:</b> different, however, conversely, unlike, in contrast, opposite <b>Introductory Statements:</b> These are alike; Similarities and differences exist between; There are advantages and disadvantages to	