

Text Structure Cues

*Some common signal words
and their corresponding text structures.*

Cause/Effect Problem/Solution

one reason that
a solution
a problem
since
because
this led to
on account of
may be due to
for this reason
consequently
then so
therefore
thus
accordingly
if/then
thereby

Compare/Contrast

in like manner
likewise
similarly
the difference
between
as opposed to
after all
however
and yet
but
nevertheless

Sequence/Time Frame

until
before
after
next
finally
lastly
first/last
the
on (date)
at (time)
following
soon
not long after

Question/Answer

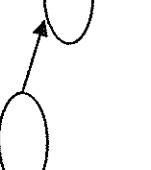

how
when
what
where
why
who
how many
the best estimate
it could be that
one may conclude

Enumeration

to begin
first
secondly
next
then finally
most important
also
in fact
for instance
for example

And don't forget Description!

Text Structure and a Visual Organizer

Text Structure	Explanation of Structure	Visual Representation
Enumeration	A list of items or ideas that come one after another.	
Time Order	A list of events in order.	
Compare/Contrast	Describes similarities and differences between two or more things or events	
Cause and Effect	Explains how events cause other events (effects.)	
Problem/Solution	Explains the development of a problem and one or more solutions.	
Description	The features or events intended to create a mental image of something experienced (a scene, an object, an event.)	

Name _____ Date _____

me-Order Chart

Write the topic in the center square. Write events in the boxes and details on the branching lines.

