

Common Expository Text Structures

Text Structure	Definition
Compare–contrast	A text that describes the similarities and differences among two or more things, places, events, ideas, people, or other factors.
Problem–solution	A text that identifies an issue and how the issue is solved. Often the solution becomes another problem.
Cause–effect	A text that explains how or why something happened, in terms of both the root cause and the impact of that cause.
Chronological/sequence/temporal	This text presents information as a process or in order of time or sequence.
Descriptive	This text provides details that could be a list or outline.

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