

Problem and Solution

Adapted from materials posted on the Literacy Leader website, http://www.literacyleader.com

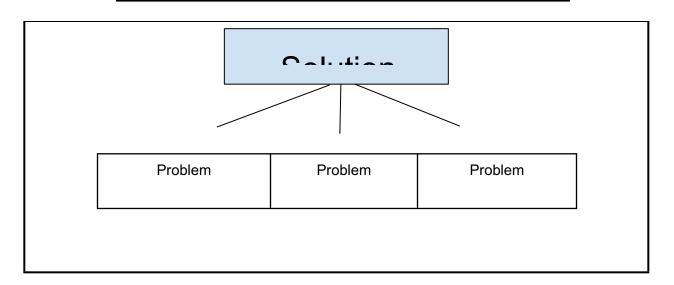
Purpose: to state one or more problems and provide one or more solutions to the problem.

Signal Words and Phrases			
advantage	disadvantage	question	
answer	in order to	since	
as a result of	issue	so that	
because	led to	solution	
cause	problem	solved	
dilemma	puzzle		

Comprehension Question Frames

- 1. What is the problem?
- 2. Who has the problem?
- 3. Why is it a problem?
- 4. What is causing the problem?
- 5. What solutions have been suggested or tried?
- 6. What are the pros and cons of various solutions?
- 7. Which solutions worked or seem to have the best chance for solving the problem?

Graphic Organizers



Description



Purpose: to explain a topic, concept, person, place, event or object, by providing characteristics, features and/or giving examples.

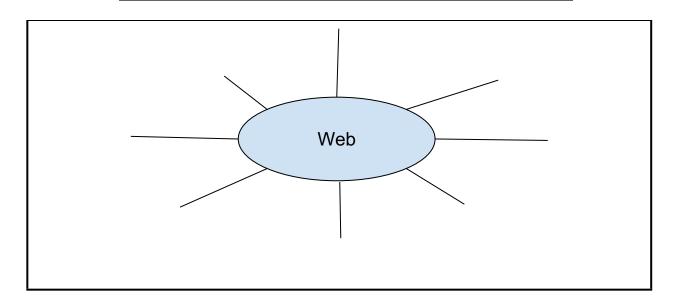
Signal Words and Phrases

descriptive words (e.g., color, shape, size)

position words (e.g., above, along, beside, between, in front of, near)

appears to be	for example	made up of
characteristics	for instance	most important
consists of	in fact	specifically
features	looks like	such as

- 1. What is the subject being described?
- 2. How is the topic being described (i.e., where it is, what it does, how it works, what it looks like, its classification)?
- 3. What are the most important attributes or characteristics?





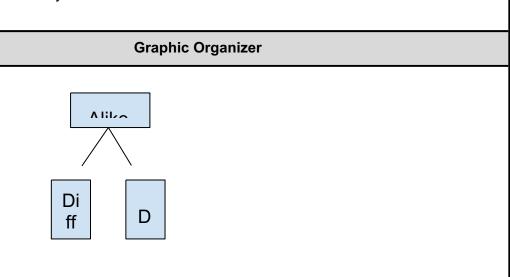
Compare and Contrast

Purpose: to describe what is similar and/or different about two or more subjects.

Signal Words and Phrases				
alike	but	in comparison	same as	
also	compared to	in contrast	similar to	
although	despite	instead of	similarity	
as	different from	just	too	
as opposed to	either-or	on the contrary	unlike	
as well as	however	on the other hand	yet	
both	in common	opposite		

- 1. What subjects are being compared?
- 2. What is it about them that is being compared?
- 3. What characteristics of the subjects form the basis of the comparison?
- 4. What characteristics do they have in common? How are they alike?

5. In what ways are they different?





Chronology/Sequence

Purpose: to provide information in time order or the order in which events, actions, or steps in a process occur.

Signal Words and Phrases				
after	finally	later	soon	
as soon as	first/second/third	meanwhile	step	
at the same time	following	next	then	
before	immediately	now	today	
directions	initially	prior to	until	
during	last	simultaneously	when	

- 1. What sequence of events is being described?
- 2. What are the major events or incidents that occur?
- 3. What happens first, next, last?
- 4. How is the sequence or cycle revealed in the text?
- 5. What are the steps, directions, procedures to follow to make or do something?

Graphic Organizers

STEP 1
STEP 2
STEP 3
STEP 4



Cause and Effect

Purpose: to explain why or how something happened/happens

Effect = what happened Cause = why it happened

Signal Words and Phrases			
as a result	if then	outcome	
because	impact	reasons for	
consequently	in order to	since	
due to	influenced by	so that	
effects of	is caused by	therefore	
for this reason	leads to	thus	
how	on account of	whenthen	

- 1. What were the specific events that happened?
- 2. Why did the events happen? What were the causes?

- 3. What were the results or outcomes of these events happening? What was the effect?
- 4. Did prior events cause or influence the main event? If so, in what ways?
- 5. What is the significance of the event and/or the results (outcomes)?

