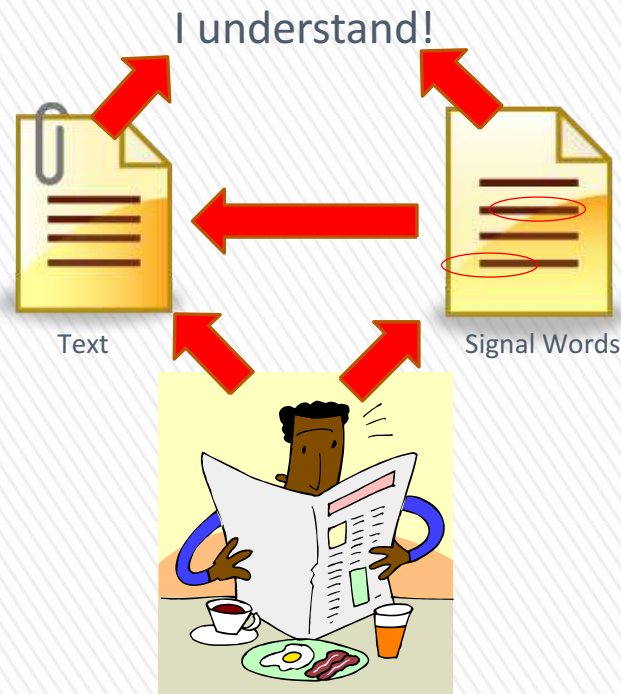


» What words does an author use to indicate they are using a particular text structure in their writing?





TEXT

STRUCTURE

THE METHOD USED BY AUTHORS TO ORGANIZE INFORMATION

Standard: 7B33 Identify, compare, explain, interpret, describe and analyze how text organization clarifies meaning of non-fiction text.

Noting the transition clues in a paragraph is often the key to solving the mystery of its organization. Transition clues help you see the relationships between ideas.

As a reading detective, you must use the clues that you can find to try to deduce the main idea by studying the supporting details.

There are hundreds of different clue words.

WE NEED TO RECONGNIZE
TEXT STRUCTURE!



1 DESCRIPTION

A girl with dark hair, wearing a pink sweater, is shown from the chest up, holding an open book titled "Rainforest". The book's cover features a green background with palm trees and a blue sky. Above her head is a large, cloud-like thought bubble. Inside the bubble, a boy with dark hair, wearing a yellow shirt and a straw hat, is holding a purple umbrella. He is standing in a lush green rainforest with a yellow and black striped snake coiled around a tree branch above him and a green frog sitting on a rock in the foreground. Rain is falling around them.

CLUE WORDS
such as, for example, for instance

2 SEQUENCE

A cartoon illustration of a young boy with dark skin and curly hair, wearing a white chef's hat and an orange and white striped shirt. He is sitting at a blue table, holding an open green book titled 'Cook Book'. He is also holding a large silver spoon in his right hand, with a few small droplets falling from it. On the table next to him is a red bowl filled with yellow eggs, and two whole white eggs are on the table in front of him.

CLUE WORDS
first, next, then,
finally, before,
after, now,
soon

3 COMPARE AND CONTRAST

CLUE WORDS
same as, similar,
alike, unlike,
instead of,
both

4 CAUSE AND EFFECT

A cartoon illustration of a young boy with reddish-brown hair, looking concerned or surprised. He is holding a small bottle of 'SUN SCREEN' lotion that features a smiling sun character on its label. To his right is a large red box of 'SUN SCREEN' with a similar sun character and 'SPF 50' printed on it. A bright yellow sun is in the top left corner, and there are small white marks on the ground suggesting sand or sweat.

CLUE WORDS
because, since,
therefore,
as a result

5 PROBLEM AND SOLUTION

CLUE WORDS
to solve this,
since, due to,
so, because,
as a result

FICTION	NON-FICTION
STORY ELEMENTS	DESCRIPTION
• CHARACTERS	SEQUENCE
• SETTING	COMPARE/CONTRAST
• PROBLEM	CAUSE/EFFECT
• PLOT	PROBLEM/SOLUTION

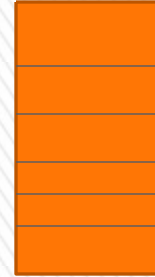
Sometimes an author will use several text structures in one piece. For example, your social studies book may be written in chronological order (in order of years) but may also contain a section that explains cause and effect.

Notice the job the transition clue is doing to help you understand what you read.

STRUCTURE (ORGANIZATION)



- » You will need 4 pieces of paper.
- » Create a staggered group of papers –
place the 2nd layer about $\frac{3}{4}$ " above the
bottom layer, 3rd layer, about $\frac{3}{4}$ " above
2nd layer, last layer $\frac{3}{4}$ " above that; then fold down
so top paper is $\frac{3}{4}$ " above the last.
- » Write **TEXT STRUCTURES** topmost flap.
- » Flap #2 – Descriptive Text Structure
- » Staple onto colored notebook paper



Text Structure Book >

Descriptive text features a detailed description of something to give the reader a mental picture.

SIGNAL WORDS

For example

Most important

In front

Beside

Near

Next to

On top of

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF:

What signal words are being used?

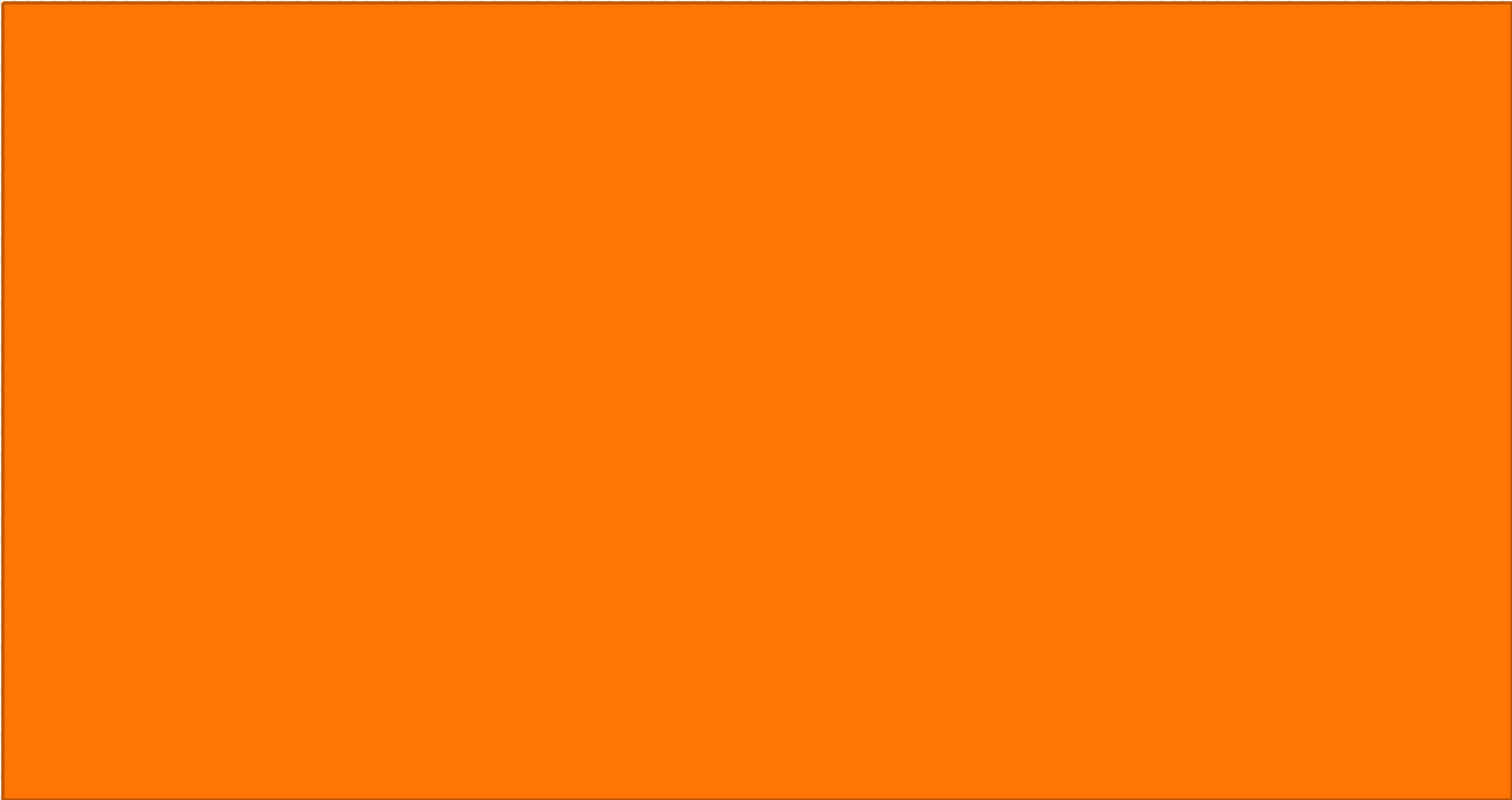
What is being described?

Which detail is most important?

Signal Words:	Questions
Xxxxxxxx	Xxxxxxxx
Xxxxxxxx	Xxxxxxxx
Description	

DESCRIPTION





In my living room there is a clock on the wall and there is a ball under the table. There are 2 pillows on the sofa and there is a lamp between some flowers and a book. My cat sits next to my sofa.

Locate description signal words.



Meet a Woolly Mammoth

Before becoming extinct, the Woolly Mammoth was able to survive in a cold climate for several reasons. It had long tusks that it could use as shovels to clear snow from the ground to reach grass and plants buried below. Its trunk ended with two “fingers” that enabled it to pluck grass. Its body was covered in fur. In fact, its belly fur could be three feet long. To prevent heat loss, its ears and tail were small. Finally, a nearly four inch layer of fat under its skin helped to keep it warm.



Look for the descriptions

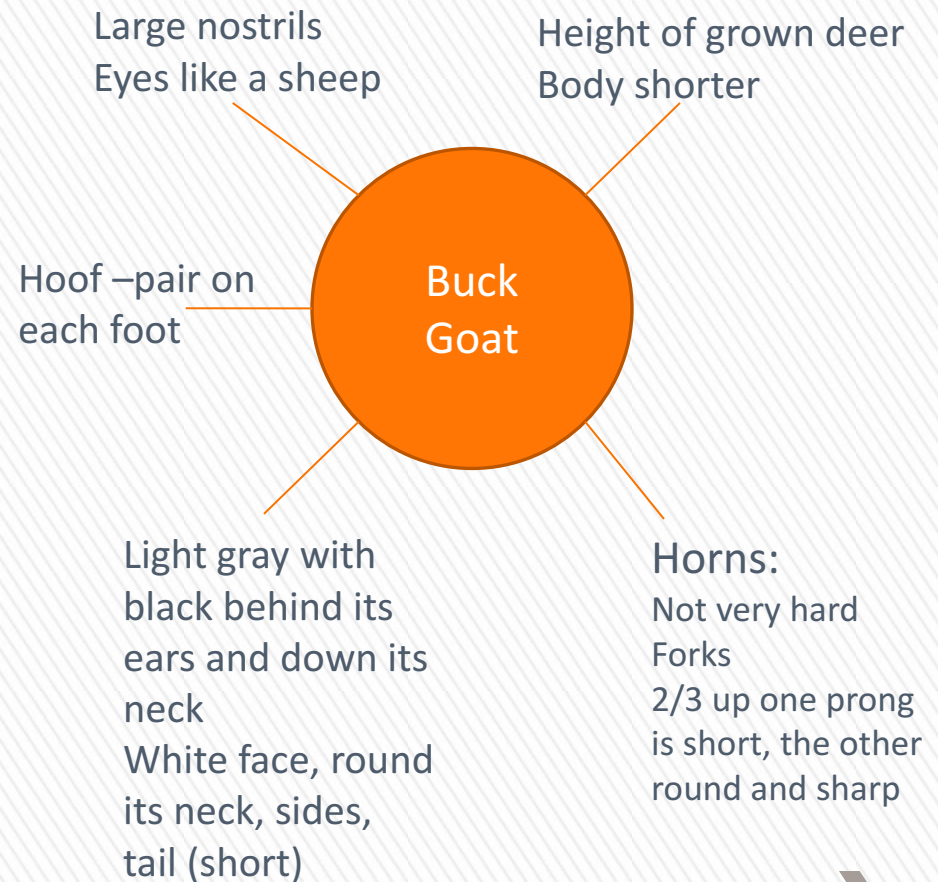
"..... in my walk I Killed a Buck Goat of this Country, about the height of the Grown Deer, its body Shorter the Horns which is not very hard and forks 2/3 up one prong Short the other round & Sharp arched, and is immediately above its Eyes the Color is a light gray with black behind its ears down its neck, and its face white round its neck, its Sides and rump round its tail which is Short & white: Very actively made, has only a pair of hoofs to each foot, his brains on the back of his head, his Nostrils large, his eyes like a Sheep he is more like the Antelope or Gazelle of Africa than any other Species of Goat." Lewis and Clark As Naturalists

What descriptive words were used in the passage?

What is being described? Buck Goat

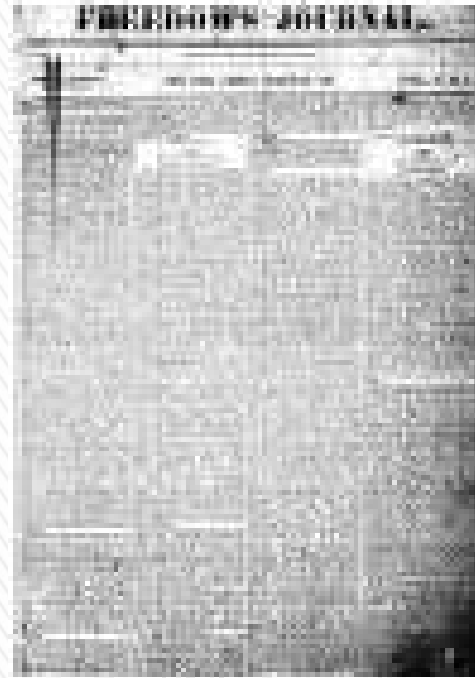


"..... in my walk I Killed a Buck Goat of this Country, about the height of the Grown Deer, its body Shorter the Horns which is not very hard and forks 2/3 up one prong Short the other round & Sharp arched, and is immediately above its Eyes the Color is a light gray with black behind its ears down its neck, and its face white round its neck, its Sides and rump round its tail which is Short & white: Very actively made, has only a pair of hoofs to each foot, his brains on the back of his head, his Nostrils large, his eyes like a Sheep he is more like the Antelope or Gazelle of Africa than any other Species of Goat."



Organizing the Information >

Freedom's Journal was a¹ weekly newspaper. It was the² first American newspaper owned and created by blacks! It was³ formed on March 16, 1827,⁴ in New York City. This seems fitting, since slavery was done away with in New York state that same year. The paper was⁵ four pages long. The editors ran articles on⁶ current events. They⁷ also ran editorials or opinion pieces. The paper printed the⁸ black viewpoint; this was missing from papers run by whites. The paper⁹ covered issues such as slavery, the right to vote, and returning free blacks to Africa. These issues were important to blacks. The editors¹⁰ wanted to educate their readers. They shared¹¹ both local and national news as well as news from other parts of the world. *Freedom's Journal*¹² only lasted for two years. However, that wasn't the end of black-owned and operated newspapers. Others were formed around the country. When the Civil War broke out, there were more than 40 papers that could have reported the news from a black point of view.



How many details can you find in the reading?

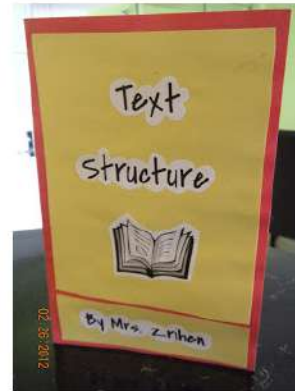
Freedom's Journal

By Brenda B. Covert



- » Locate a descriptive article in the provided materials, and begin your **Text Structure Book**.
- » Remember, signal words include:

- > For example
- > Most important
- > In front of
- > Beside
- > Near
- > Next to
- > On top of



- » Be able to answer the following questions:
 - > What is being described?
 - > Which detail is most important?
 - > How do all of the details fit together?

Demonstrate your knowledge!

