

Nonfiction Text Structures

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

The student will identify and diagram the organizational structure (chronological, cause/effect, compare/contrast, problem/solution) of a nonfiction passage.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- A short nonfiction article or textbook section (1-2 pages)
- Poster board or large sheet of paper
- Ruler
- Markers or colored pencils

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. Read your nonfiction article and decide which structure it mostly follows: chronological, cause/effect, compare/contrast, or problem/solution.
2. On the poster board, draw a graphic organizer that matches that structure (a timeline, a cause-and-effect chain, a Venn diagram, or a problem/solution box).
3. Use a ruler to make your organizer neat, with clear boxes or sections.
4. Fill in the organizer with the key information from the article, in your own words.
5. Write the article's title and the structure name at the top of the poster.

QUESTIONS

1. Which text structure did your article use, and what were two clue words that helped you identify it?

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2. List the three most important pieces of information you placed in your organizer.

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3. How did organizing the information visually change your understanding of the article compared to just reading it?
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4. Could this same article have been written using a different structure? Explain.
