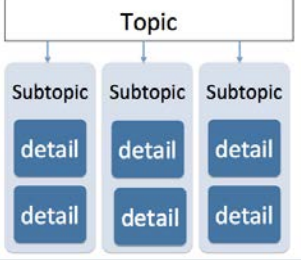
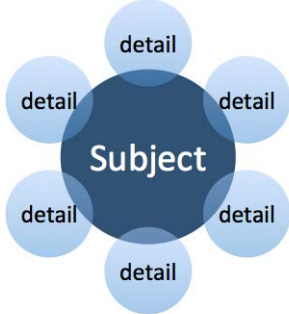
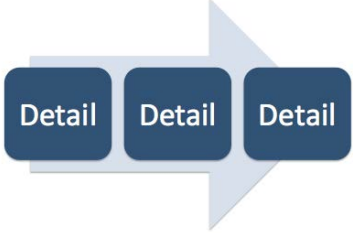
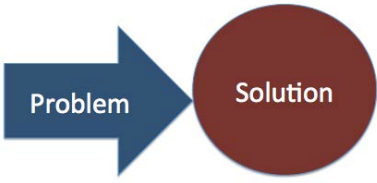
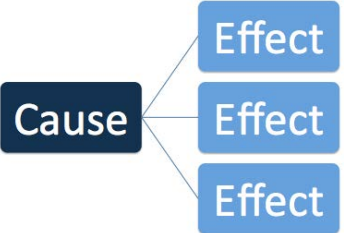


Read Like This: Using Informational Text Strategies -- Organizational Structure of Text

Informational text can be organized in a variety of ways. Being able to identify the text structure/organization can help you better comprehend a text.

<p>Categories are a way of organizing informational text that provide the reader with a logical progression from the introduction of a topic, to subtopics, and then to details about the subtopics. It clearly delineates the information provided.</p>	
<p>Description as an informational text structure provides the reader with details (descriptive and sensory) about the subject that helps visualize information. The reader is given information about the <i>who, what, when, where, why</i> and <i>how</i> of a topic or subject.</p>	
<p>Sequence, or sequential order, is when the text is organized by the order in which it occurs. This organizational structure works well with explanations, instructions and directions. Words such as <i>first, next, then</i> and <i>finally</i> are signal words used when text is organized in sequential order.</p>	
<p>Problem/Solution is an organizational pattern where the information is presented as an issue and what can be done to solve, fix or remedy the issue presented. Words such as <i>answer, solution, issue, problem, fix, proposal</i> and <i>proposition</i> may indicate a problem/solution structure.</p>	
<p>A cause-and-effect organizational structure explains the reasons why something has happened, or the effects of something that occurred. Words such as <i>because, since, due to</i> may indicate a cause-and-effect organizational structure.</p>	

Compare and contrast explores the similarities and differences between two or more things. In this organizational structure, the text should discuss both similarities and differences. The author will move back and forth between points. Signal words often used in compare and contrast structures are: *like, unlike, both, neither, different* and *similar*.

