Informational Text Structures



Description

Ask yourself: What specific person, place, thing, or idea is being described? Look for a topic word or phrase.



Cause and Effect

Ask yourself: What are the results, outcomes, consequences, or the effects of an action or non-action.

The pattern is often 'Because x happened or didn't happen, the effect is y'.



Sequence

Ask yourself: Is this event taking place over time? Look for steps or references to time such as dates.



Compare and Contrast

Ask yourself: What is being compared? How are they the same? How are they different?



Problem and Solution

Ask yourself: What is the problem and what is the solution? Look for the problem first and then the solution.

