

Expository Writing Patterns

Expository Writing

- ❑ Exposition is a type of oral or written discourse that is used to explain, describe, give information or inform.
 - ❑ The creator of an expository text can not assume that the reader or listener has prior knowledge or understanding of the topic.
 - ❑ The author is to try to use words that clearly show what they are talking about rather than blatantly telling the reader what is being discussed.
 - ❑ Clarity requires strong organization
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Circumlocution Pattern

- Depicts a pattern in which the speaker discusses a topic, then diverts to discuss a related but different topic.
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Circumlocution Pattern

- I can still remember when we where freshmen and we planned to take a trip to Mexico. As soon as either one of us learned to drive we were gonna take off south of the border. I've been looking forward to it for three years and that's why I'm so disappointed that we can't go. It's just that I know that we're gonna have to be shelling out the big bucks for our senior (year). I mean, with the prom, grad-night, pictures, etc.
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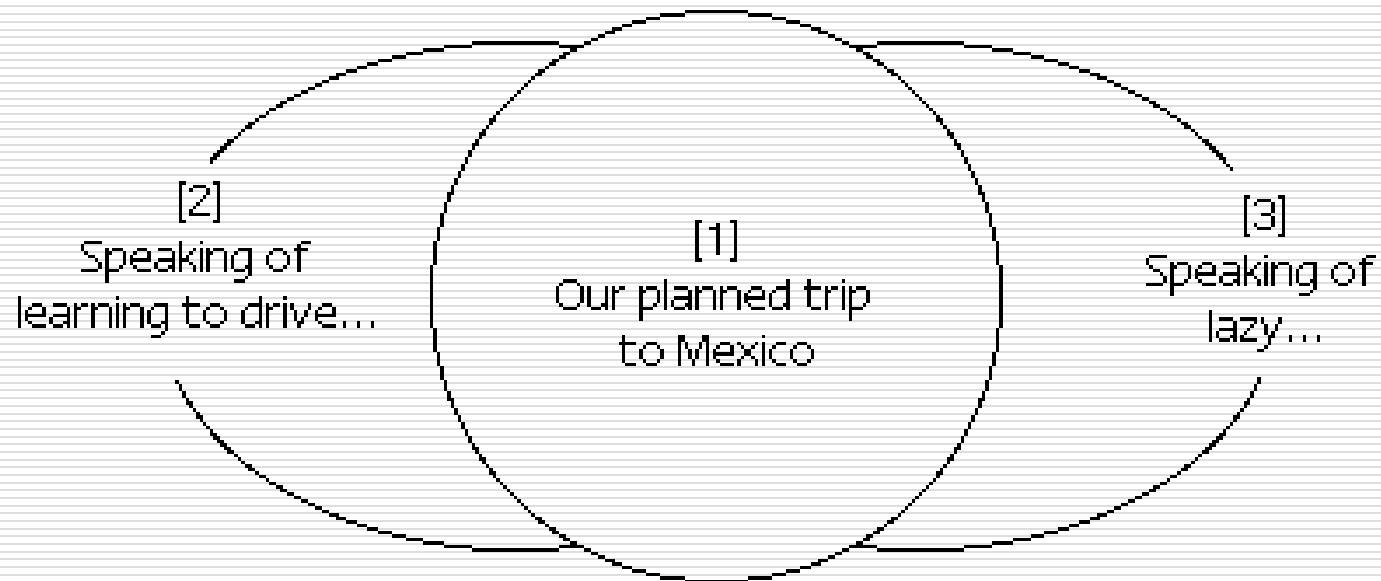
Circumlocution Pattern

- Speaking of learning to drive, when are we going to get our licenses? I thought I was bad because I took safety education and drivers training in November 1988. But you're worse. If I'm not mistaken, you took them both in June, '88. So I'm jammin' compared to you. I guess we're both just too lazy to go down to the DMV.
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Circumlocution Pattern

- Speaking of lazy, I don't want to work mornings. I hate having to get up early just to feed cinnamon rolls to grouchy, half-awake, old people. I'd rather keep working afternoons and evenings when all the gorgeous guys drop in on their lunch breaks...
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Circumlocution Pattern



Narrative Interspersion

- A pattern or a sub-pattern imbedded in other patterns in which the speaker or writer intersperses a narrative within the expository text for specific purposes, including to clarify, or elaborate on a point or to link the subject matter to a personal experience.
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Narrative Interspersion

- [1] Hey girl... what's up?... I guess I want to talk to you about 'Self Destruction'. Personally, I don't know anyone who uses drugs but I do know people who are hard headed and ignorant. And we both know girls who are always in trouble... Too many girls out there are getting pregnant and using drugs. At the same time, they don't care. And all this stuff about 'colors', you know Red and Blue Chrips and Bloods... That's all B.S. Just another reason to shoot a brother. It's like Kool Moe Dee said, "I never ever ran from the Ku Klux Klan, and I shouldn't have to run from a Black man...cuz that's 'Self Destruction.' It's a serious trip how most violence to Blacks is done by Blacks.
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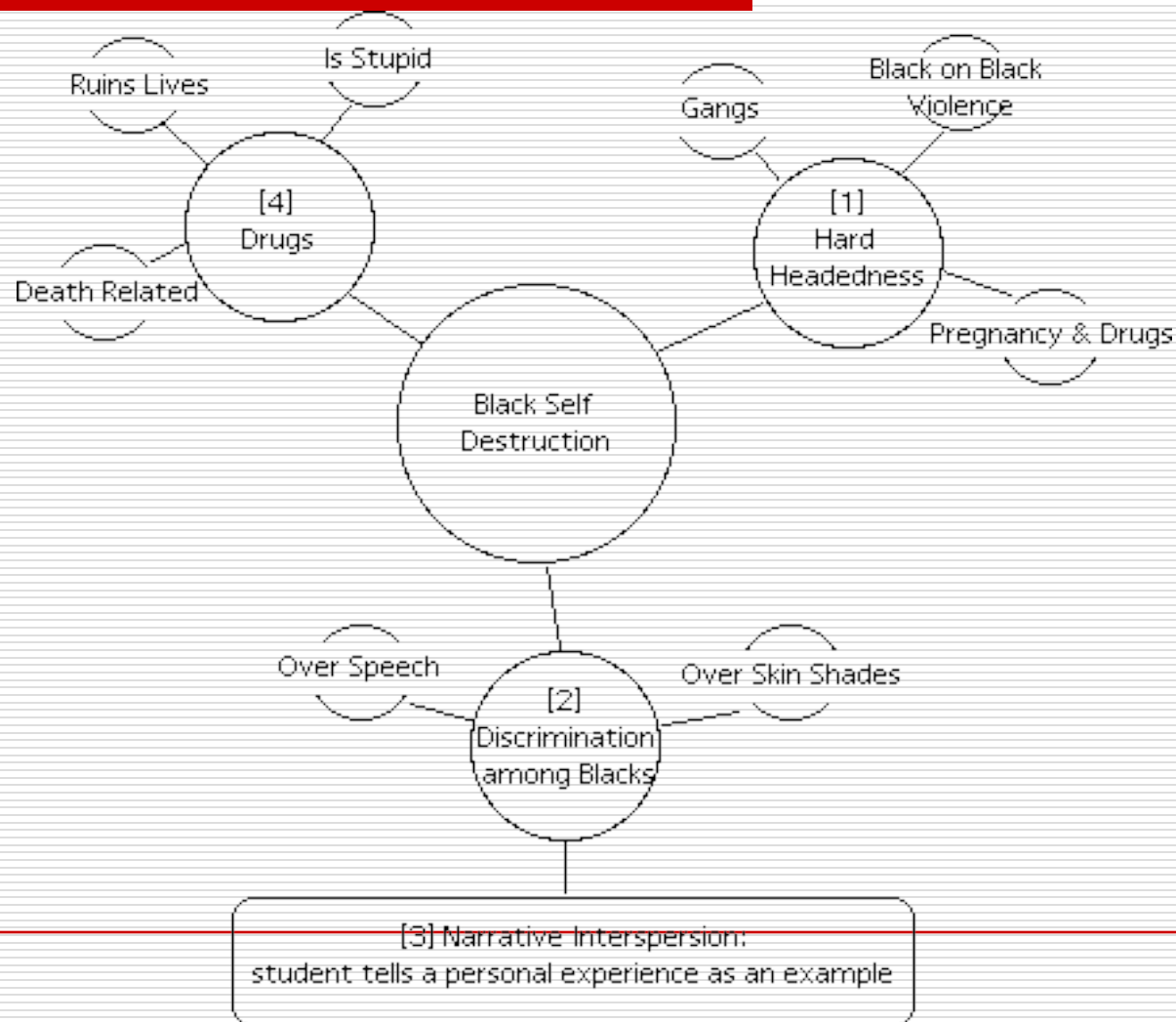
Narrative Interspersion

- [2] Then there's discrimination between Blacks because of lighter and darker shades. Like when people call me 'white girl' before, of course, I got this tan. I'm sort of glad that I'm not that light anymore. But, I'm still teased by the way I talk because it's too proper. But that's just the way I talk. One night I was talking [3] on the phone to____, my boyfriend, when some of his friends started to talking to me on the phone. Whenever they'd talk to me, they'd assume I was white. The first time they did that, it really made me mad. But I don't get mad anymore. I'm used to it. It gets me mad when they think I think I'm better than them. But I don't think that.
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Narrative Interspersion

- [4] And another thing I hate is drugs. That's stupid too. Drugs ruin people's lives and it's even worse that people are willing to die for them....
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Narrative Interspersion



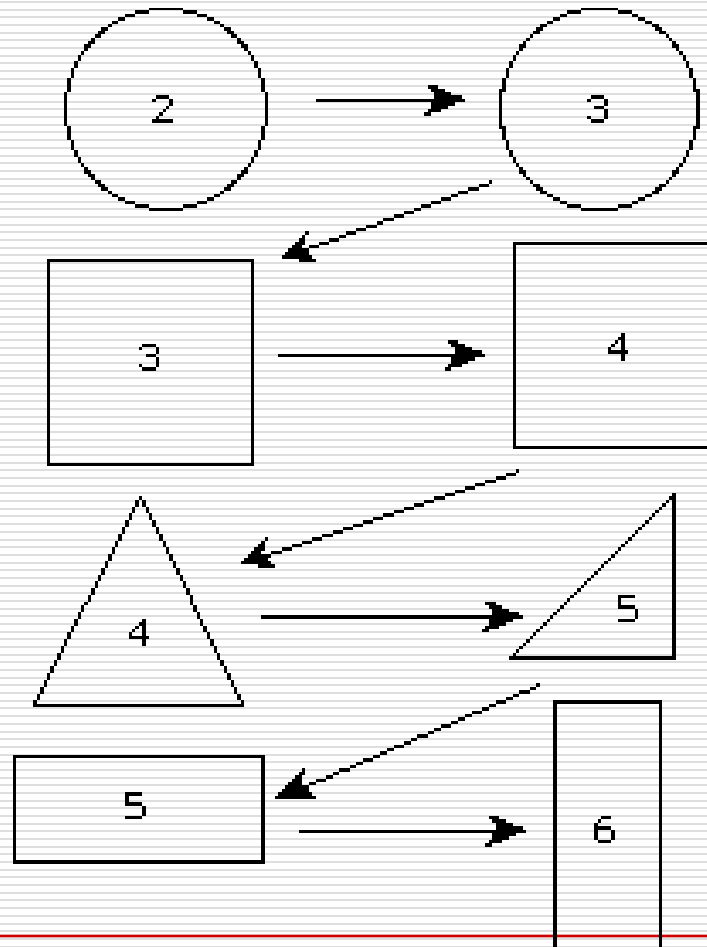
Recursion

- When the speaker discusses a topic, then restates it using different words or symbolism. It is used to drive home a point and to give special emphasis to the text.
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Recursion

- ❑ [1] Yes, we're on the move now,
 - ❑ [2] and no wave of racism can stop us;
 - ❑ [3] and the burning of churches will not deter us.
 - ❑ [4] and the bombing of our homes will not dissuade us
 - ❑ [5] and the beating and the killing of our clergymen and young people will not divert us.
 - ❑ [6] The wanton release of their known murderers will not discourage us.
 - ❑ [7] We're on the move now!
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Recursion



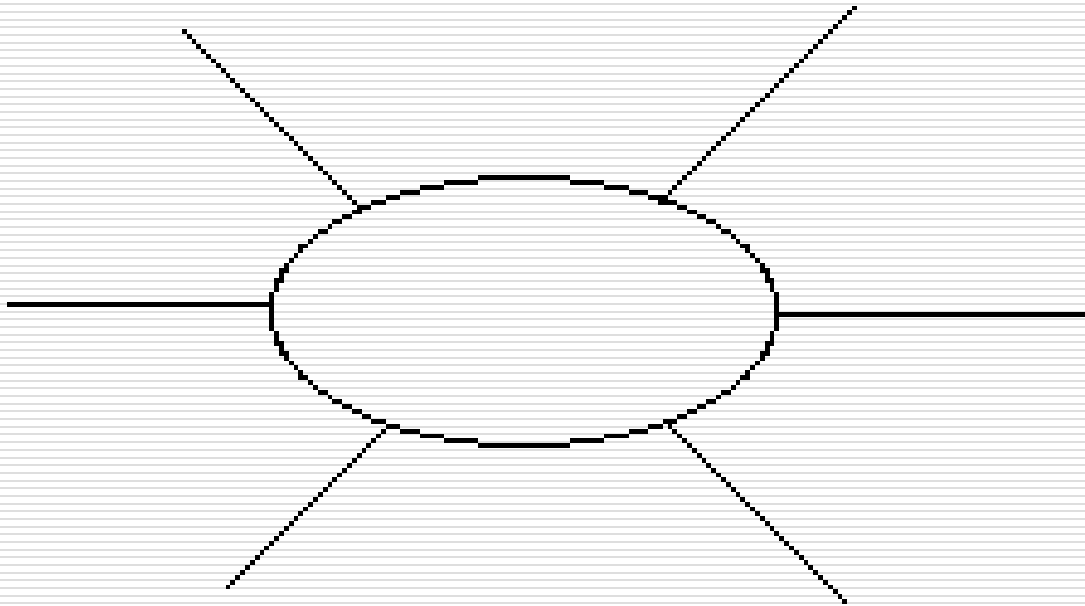
Description

- The author describes a topic by listing characteristics, features, and examples
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Description

- The Olympic symbol consists of five interlocking rings. The rings represent the five continents - Africa, Asia, Europe, North America and South America - from which athletes come to compete in the games. The rings are colored black blue, green, red, and yellow. At least one of these colors is found in the flag of every country sending athletes to compete in the Olympic games.
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Description



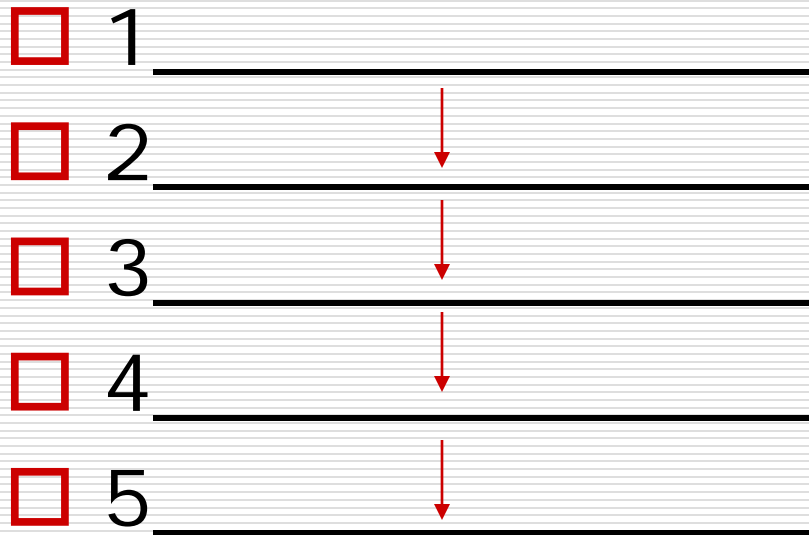
Sequence

- The author lists items or events in numerical or chronological order.
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Sequence

- The Olympic games began as athletic festivals to honor the Greek gods. The most important festival was held in the valley of Olympia to honor Zeus, the king of the gods. It was this festival that became the Olympic games in 776 B.C. These games were ended in A.D. 394 by the Roman Emperor who ruled Greece. No Olympic games were held for more than 1,500 years. Then the modern Olympics began in 1896. Almost 300 male athletes competed in the first modern Olympics. In the games held in 1900, female athletes were allowed to compete. The games have continued every four years since 1896 except during World War II, and they will most likely continue for many years to come.
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Sequence



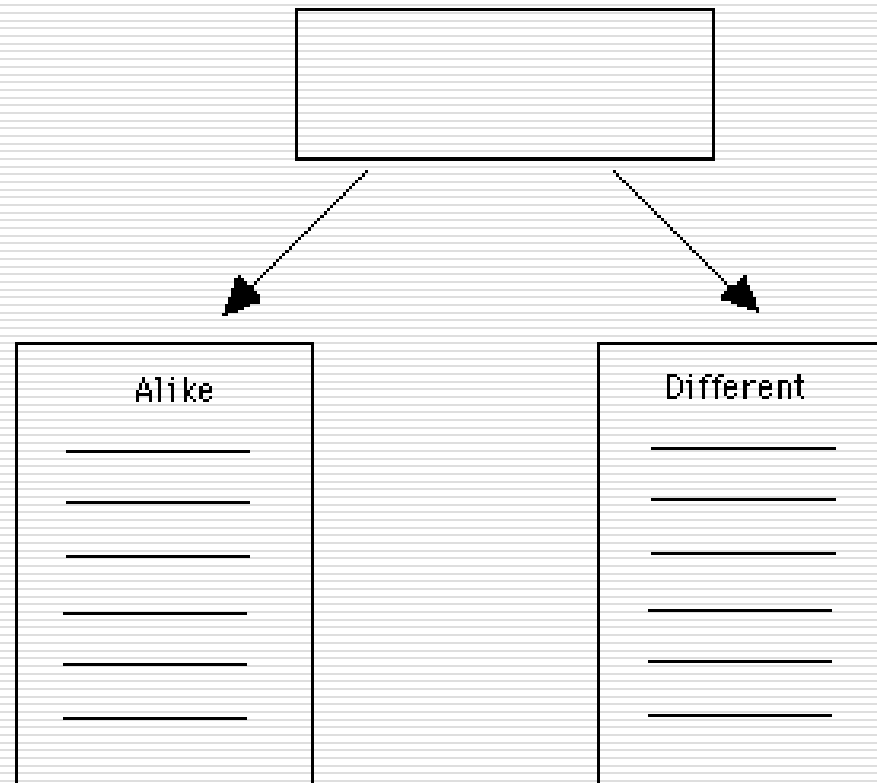
Comparison

- The author explains how two or more things are alike and/or how they are different.
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Comparison

- ❑ The modern Olympics is very unlike the ancient Olympic games. Individual events are different. While there were no swimming races in the ancient games, for example, there were chariot races. There were no female contestants and all athletes competed in the nude. Of course, the ancient and modern Olympics are also alike in many ways. Some events, such as the javelin and discus throws, are the same. Some people say that cheating, professionalism, and nationalism in the modern games are a disgrace to the Olympic tradition. But according to the ancient Greek writers, there were many cases of cheating, nationalism, and professionalism in their Olympics too.
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Comparison



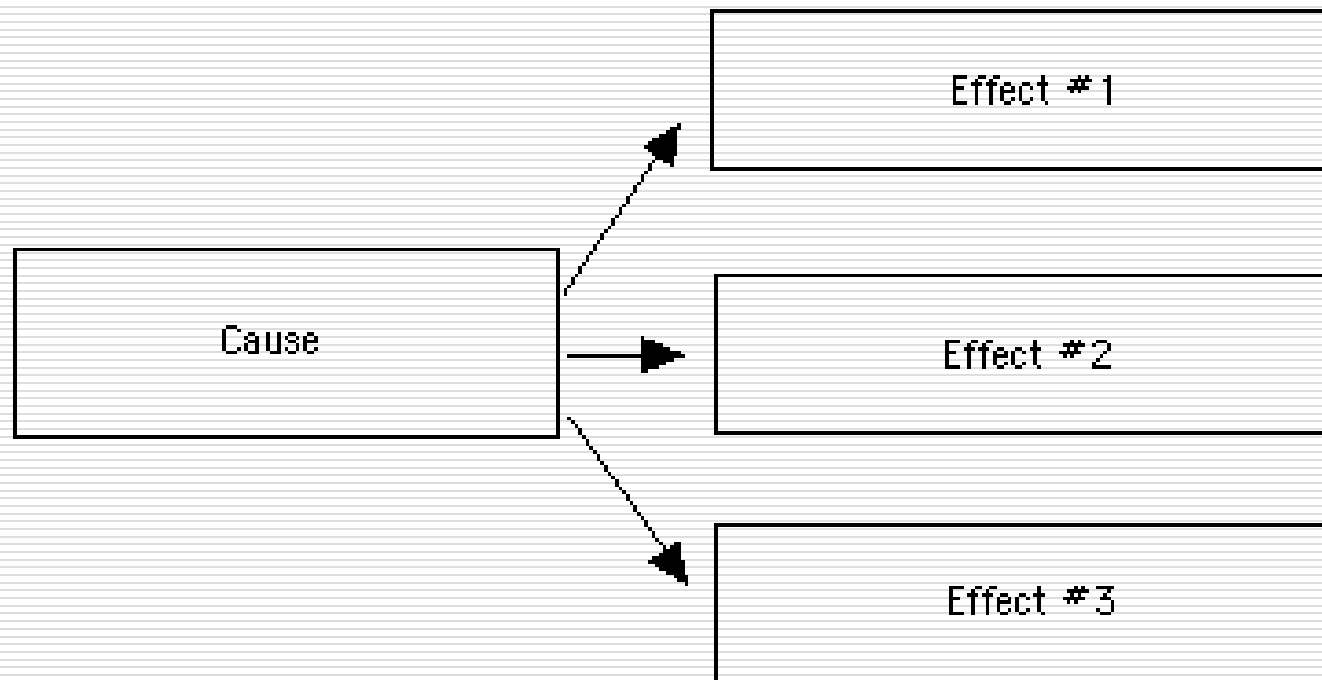
Cause and Effect

- The author lists one or more causes and the resulting effect or effects.
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Cause and Effect

- There are several reasons why so many people attend the Olympic games or watch them on television. One reason is tradition. The name Olympics and the torch and flame remind people of the ancient games. People can escape the ordinariness of daily life by attending or watching the Olympics. They like to identify with someone else's individual sacrifice and accomplishment. National pride is another reason, and an athlete's or a team's hard earned victory becomes a nation's victory. There are national medal counts and people keep track of how many medals their country's athletes have won.
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Cause and Effect



Problem and Solution

- The author states a problem and lists one or more solutions for the problem. A variation of this pattern is the question- and-answer format in which the author poses a question and then answers it.
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Problem and Solution

- ❑ One problem with the modern Olympics is that it has become very big and expensive to operate. The city or country that hosts the games often loses a lot of money. A stadium, pools, and playing fields must be built for the athletic events and housing is needed for the athletes who come from around the world. And all of these facilities are used for only 2 weeks!
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Problem and Solution

- In 1984, Los Angeles solved these problems by charging a fee for companies who wanted to be official sponsors of the games. Companies like McDonald's paid a lot of money to be part of the Olympics. Many buildings that were already built in the Los Angeles area were also used. The Coliseum where the 1932 games were held was used again and many colleges and universities in the area became playing and living sites.
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Problem and Solution

