

Text structure is how information is organized in writing. Text structures, or patterns of organization, not only vary from writing to writing, but text structures may also change frequently from paragraph to paragraph within a single piece of writing.

- **Chronological order** is known as **time order**, or sequence of events.
- ideas are presented in the order in which they occur or take place in time.
- **Questions Answered:**
“When did it happen?”
“In what order did it happen?”
- **When Used:**
Commonly used in history and narratives

■ Time-Order Transitions

about	during	next	until
after	first	second	when
all the while	finally	soon	yesterday
as soon as	later	suddenly	slowly
before	meanwhile	today	just then

Sample Paragraph Without Transitions

We had to build a frame for the floor of the house. We used a rope to raise all the wood up into the tree. We carefully nailed the board to the frame. We had a floor.

Sample Paragraph With Transitions

The *first* thing we had to do was build a frame for the floor of the house. *Then* we used a rope to raise all the wood up into the tree. *Afterward*, we carefully nailed the board to the frame, and *soon* we had a floor.

Examples:

- I. There have been many new inventions and improvements to photography that increased its proliferation into mainstream society. The availability of self-timers in the late 1880s allowed for an ease for creating self-portraits, since it gave five to ten seconds for the subject to position themselves in the shot. The launch of the portable Kodak Brownie Box camera in 1900 led to self-portraiture becoming a widespread technique. When instant cameras, such as the Polaroid became more affordable in the 1970s it encouraged photographers to take more self-portraits since the camera was very light, allowing it to be casually held at arms length and provided instant gratification. The proliferation of smartphones is responsible for the accessibility of cameras to the general public. The release of the Sony Ericsson Z1010 mobile phone in 2003 introduced the front-facing camera, which allowed for the easiest selfie-taking to date. In 2015, the Selfie Stick was invented, which allows for more of the background and additional people to be included in the composition.
- II. School has increased in its difficulty over the years. In the past, kindergarten was carefree; all I had to do was finger paint, crafts, and daily naptimes, which gave me the rest I needed. During my elementary years, math went from adding and subtracting to multiplication and division, while I also studied states and capitals. After that came junior high with its more advanced math, which also strengthened my independent study skills. Recently high school has been the most difficult – my responsibilities have gone from naptime to chemistry equations. School has had a huge part in helping me plan for the future.
- III. There is much preparation to be done before hunting season arrives. First, hunters must obtain their deer or elk tags from the Department of Wildlife which allows them to legally kill these animals. Then they must consult their calendars, ask for time off of work, request assignments from teachers like Mrs. B, and determine where they will go to hunt. Finally, because big game live in the wilderness, sportsmen must prepare to keep warm during many days outside by gathering their warm coats, woolen socks, hats and gloves. To most hunters, thankfully, the groundwork is just as exciting as the hunt itself!