

Informational Text Structure Graphic Organizer

Identify how ideas are organized, then map the relationship instead of relying on signal words alone.

Name: _____

Date: _____

TEXT / SECTION

STRUCTURE CHECK

- ☐ Description ☐ Sequence ☐ Cause / Effect
☐ Compare / Contrast ☐ Problem / Solution

WHY THIS STRUCTURE FITS

Use the relationship among ideas; signal words are clues, not proof.

MAP THE IMPORTANT IDEAS

IDEA / PART 1

IDEA / PART 2

IDEA / PART 3

HOW THE STRUCTURE HELPS

Informational Text Structure — Guided

GUIDED VERSION

Name: _____ Date: _____

STRUCTURE

Sequence, compare/contrast, cause/effect, problem/solution, description...

SIGNAL WORDS / FEATURES

What clues reveal the structure?

IDEA RELATIONSHIP

Show how the key ideas actually connect.

EVIDENCE

Add a specific sentence, heading, or transition.

WHY IT HELPS

How does this structure help the reader understand?

Informational Text Structure — Completed Example

Original paragraph · Identify the relationship among ideas, not just a single signal word.

PRACTICE TEXT / CONTEXT

During a heat wave, dark pavement absorbs solar energy and becomes much warmer than nearby shaded surfaces. As pavement heats the air directly above it, blocks with little shade can remain uncomfortable into the evening. Adding tree canopy or other shade can reduce direct solar exposure on some surfaces, which may lower local heat stress.

STRUCTURE

Cause and effect.

SIGNAL WORDS / FEATURES

The paragraph repeatedly links conditions and results: “as,” “can remain,” “reduce,” and “which may lower.”

IDEA RELATIONSHIP

Solar exposure warms dark pavement → warm pavement contributes to hotter nearby air → shade reduces exposure → reduced exposure may lower heat stress.

TEXT EVIDENCE

“As pavement heats the air directly above it...” explicitly connects one condition to a result.

WHY IT HELPS

Recognizing the cause/effect structure helps the reader track why heat builds and why shade is presented as a response rather than as an unrelated detail.