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## What Are Organizational Text Structures?: Skill Check

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Read "What Are Organizational Text Structures?" on page 4 and then complete this page.

**Directions:** Match the terms with the correct definitions.

- |                                |                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| _____ 1. chronological order   | a. the key concept being expressed with supporting information about that concept |
| _____ 2. compare and contrast  | b. tells why something happened and the result of it happening                    |
| _____ 3. description           | c. uses dates to express time order                                               |
| _____ 4. main idea and details | d. lists features, characteristics, or examples                                   |
| _____ 5. cause and effect      | e. shows likenesses and differences of two or more things                         |

**Directions:** Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer for each multiple-choice question.

- |                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6. Which text structure tells the steps to follow to do something or make something?                                                                             | 8. For which text structure would you ask the question, "How are the two items similar or different?"             |
| <input type="radio"/> a. description                                                                                                                             | <input type="radio"/> a. cause and effect                                                                         |
| <input type="radio"/> b. cause and effect                                                                                                                        | <input type="radio"/> b. main idea and details                                                                    |
| <input type="radio"/> c. sequential order                                                                                                                        | <input type="radio"/> c. description                                                                              |
| <input type="radio"/> d. main idea and details                                                                                                                   | <input type="radio"/> d. compare and contrast                                                                     |
| 7. What is another name for text structures?                                                                                                                     | 9. For which text structure would you ask the questions, "When did it happen?" and "In what order did it happen?" |
| <input type="radio"/> a. organizational patterns                                                                                                                 | <input type="radio"/> a. main idea and details                                                                    |
| <input type="radio"/> b. "key concepts"                                                                                                                          | <input type="radio"/> b. chronological order                                                                      |
| <input type="radio"/> c. chronological order                                                                                                                     | <input type="radio"/> c. cause and effect                                                                         |
| <input type="radio"/> d. description                                                                                                                             | <input type="radio"/> d. compare and contrast                                                                     |
| 10. Why is it important for a reader to be able to identify which text structure is being used by an author? Cite evidence from the text to support your answer. |                                                                                                                   |

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## Cause and Effect

Some nonfiction texts have a cause and effect organization. A **cause** is why something happens. An **effect** is what happens. This structure is used when the main idea of the text is about how one thing causes another.

### The Day the Earth Danced

The discovery of gold at Sutter's Creek in California in 1848 made San Francisco into a busy port. Its population increased from just a few hundred before the discovery of gold to over one-half million by 1906.

The rapid growth of the city encouraged builders to quickly erect buildings in order to accommodate the businesses and residents of the thriving community. Since it was faster and cheaper to erect wooden buildings, most were constructed this way. While these buildings were not as sturdy or as safe as brick buildings, and they were prone to burn, not many people worried. After all, the city and its citizens were doing well.



There was one problem with this successful, modern city, however. The site, which was so beautiful and so strategically located for commerce, was right on top of what is known as the San Andreas Fault. A fault is a fracture in the earth's crust where two tectonic plates meet. The San Andreas Fault, which is about 600 miles long, reaches from the Gulf of California to north of San Francisco. It marks the separation of the North American and Pacific tectonic plates. These plates actually float and move or drift on the earth's mantle, which is composed of melted rock. When these plates collide with each other, or they suddenly pull apart, an earthquake occurs.

In 1906, the citizens of San Francisco did not know about tectonic plates, nor the San Andreas Fault. So the citizens of this beautiful community were not worried. That is, until 5:13 a.m. on April 18, 1906. The 500,000 inhabitants of San Francisco were jolted awake that morning with a foreshock that was felt throughout the area. About 25 seconds later, the earthquake began. The earth undulated violently. The quake lasted less than a minute, but the damage was horrendous.

As a result of the quake, some buildings collapsed, and gas pipes broke. Another effect was that the gas was ignited by downed power lines, causing many fires within minutes. The fires burned out of control because the quake had broken the city's water pipes. The fires raged on for days. When the smoke cleared, the survivors could finally see the extent of the damage. Nearly five square miles of the city had been burned. Nearly 3,000 people had lost their lives. Another 300,000 were left homeless. Over 28,000 buildings were destroyed. The estimated property damage was set at \$400,000,000.

San Francisco was rebuilt, and it has grown tremendously. We have learned a lot from this and other quakes.

## Cause and Effect: Skill Check

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Read "The Day the Earth Danced" on page 6 and review page 4. The information will help you complete this page.

**Directions:** Answer the questions and complete the graphic organizer below.

1. How can you tell the passage is organized using the cause and effect text structure?

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2. Which signal words did the author use in the selection? \_\_\_\_\_

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### San Francisco Earthquake of 1906

#### Effects

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

#### Cause

3.



## Sequential Order

Some nonfiction texts have a **sequential order** organization. Authors use sequencing to tell the steps to follow to do something or make something. The passages below are two different examples of how authors use sequential order.

### Passage #1

#### The Coach Who Read Cookbooks

Vince Lombardi (1913–1970) was one of the greatest football coaches in history. He gained national fame by turning the losing Green Bay Packers into a winning team. He was named Coach of the Century by ESPN.

Reading was one of Lombardi's pastimes off the football field. Although he didn't like to cook, he enjoyed reading cookbooks. He often read recipes out loud to his wife, Marie.

#### Lombardi's Best Football Chili

##### Ingredients

2 T. butter	1 qt. beef or chicken broth
1 c. chopped onion	1 pt. canned kidney beans
1/4 t. chopped garlic	2 T. red chili powder
2 lbs. ground beef	1/2 t. sugar
16 oz. can diced tomatoes	1 t. salt



**Directions:** Brown onion and garlic in butter in an 8 qt. pan. Add ground beef and brown until well done. Add remaining ingredients. Cover and simmer for two hours. Serve hot. Makes approximately 1 gallon.

### Passage #2

#### Solar Collector Experiment

Solar energy can be converted to thermal (heat) energy. Solar collectors are devices that can be placed on buildings to absorb and collect solar radiation to heat water. Solar energy can be used to heat swimming pools, homes, greenhouses, and other buildings. Which colors help collect the most solar energy?

##### Materials

- 6 plastic bottles
- 6 different colors of spray paint, including black and white
- 6 seven-inch balloons

**Procedure:** Spray paint one bottle black and the other white. Next, spray paint each of the remaining bottles a different color. Then, place the open end of one balloon over the mouth of each bottle. Make sure the balloon forms an airtight seal. Finally, place each bottle in direct sunlight. Observe the bottles for 30 minutes. Record your observations.

## Sequential Order: Skill Check

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Read the passages on page 10 and review page 4. The information will help you complete this page.

**Directions:** Review Passage #1. Use the graphic organizer below to show the steps in making Vince Lombardi's football chili.



**Directions:** Review Passage #2. Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer for each multiple-choice question.

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>2. Which step comes directly after placing a balloon over the mouth of each bottle?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> a. Spray paint one bottle black and the other white.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> b. Spray paint each of the remaining bottles a different color.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> c. Make sure the balloon forms an airtight seal.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> d. Place each bottle in direct sunlight.</p> | <p>4. When do you spray paint the remaining four bottles?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> a. After spray painting one bottle black and the other white.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> b. After placing a balloon over the mouth of each bottle.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> c. After making sure the balloon forms an airtight seal.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> d. After placing each bottle in direct sunlight.</p> |
| <p>3. What is the last step in the activity?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> a. Make sure the balloon forms an airtight seal.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> b. Observe the bottles for 30 minutes.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> c. Place each bottle in direct sunlight.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> d. Record observations.</p>                                                                                                 | <p>5. What is the purpose of a solar collector?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> a. cool homes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> b. cool water</p> <p><input type="radio"/> c. heat soil</p> <p><input type="radio"/> d. heat water</p>                                                                                                                                                                                      |

### Critical Thinking

6. How does the author of Passage #2 signal the change from one step in the procedure to the next? Cite evidence from the text to support your answer.

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