

Table of Contents

Introduction	4
Unit 1: Vocabulary Development	5
L.6.4, RL.6.4, RI.6.4, RH.6.4, RST.6.4 Lesson 1 Word Meanings	6
L.6.5, RL.6.4, RI.6.4 Lesson 2 Word Relationships	19
L.6.6, RI.6.4, RH.6.4, RST.6.4 Lesson 3 Content-Specific Words.....	33
Review Vocabulary Development.....	39
Unit 2: Key Ideas and Details	45
RL.6.1, RI.6.1, RST.6.1 Lesson 4 Understanding a Text.....	46
RL.6.2, RI.6.2, RH.6.2, RST.6.2 Lesson 5 Main Idea and Summaries	57
RL.6.3 Lesson 6 Literary Elements.....	69
RI.6.3, RH.6.3 Lesson 7 Analyzing Events and Concepts.....	85
Review Key Ideas and Details	94
Unit 3: Craft and Structure	103
RL.6.5 Lesson 8 Literary Structure.....	104
RI.6.5, RH.6.5, RST.6.5 Lesson 9 Text Features.....	116
RL.6.6, RI.6.6, RH.6.6 Lesson 10 Point of View and Author's Purpose.....	131
Review Craft and Structure.....	144
Unit 4: Integration of Knowledge and Ideas	153
RI.6.7, RH.6.7, RST.6.7 Lesson 11 Visual Literacy	154
RI.6.8, RST.6.8 Lesson 12 Identifying Connections.....	166
RL.6.9, RH.6.9 Lesson 13 Comparing and Contrasting	176
Review Integration of Knowledge and Ideas.....	188
Practice Test	197
Glossary	213

Text Features

RI.6.5, RH.6.5, RST.6.5

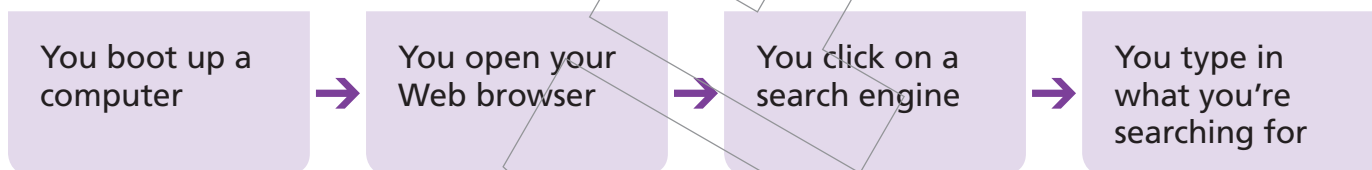
Vocabulary

homo sapiens
serendipity
sonar
switchback

Informational text also has a structure, just as a story, poem, or play does. The author uses a specific structure to organize the information and present the ideas as clearly as possible. There are many ways that a text may be structured.

Sequence and Chronological Order

One way authors organize information is by presenting it as a series of events or steps. When you read, you need to be able to understand the correct **sequence** in which events or steps happen. Whether you are reading about events in history, a procedure in a science experiment, or directions to a soccer game, you need to follow the sequence.



A chronological text is not always written in sequential order. For example, an article about a Civil War battle may begin in the heat of combat and then “flash back” to events leading up to the battle. You can follow the sequence by looking for clues. Watch for words that indicate time, such as *1864*, *Sunday*, *last spring*, and *10:00 a.m.* Look for other words that indicate sequence too.

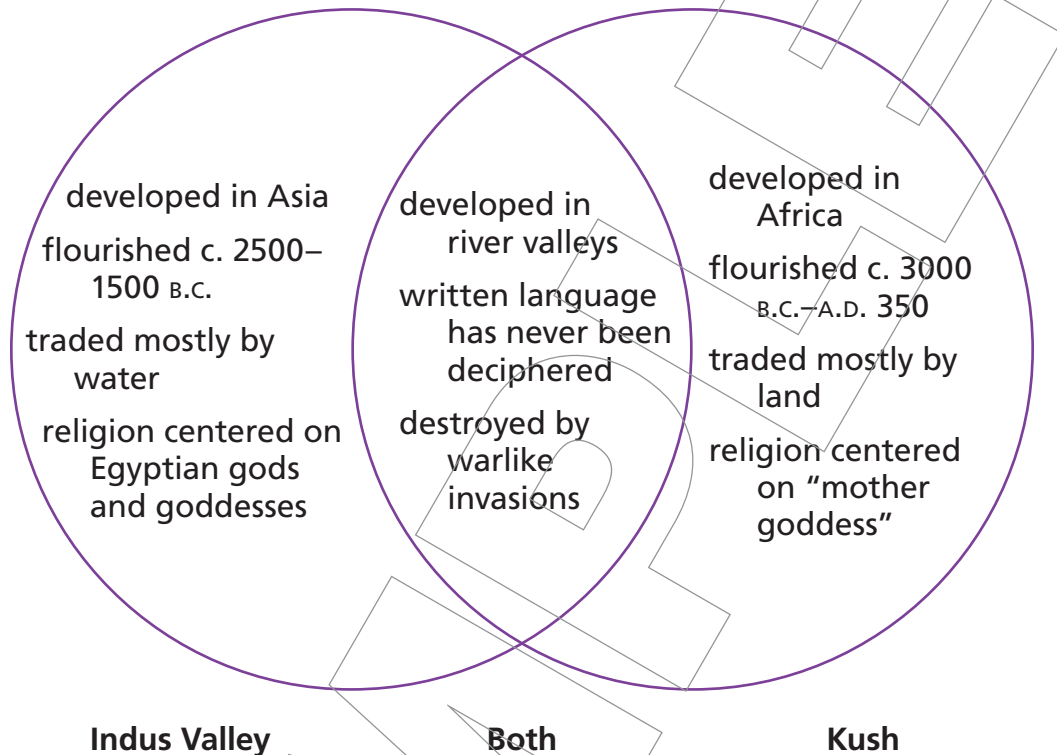
Cause and Effect

Another way that authors organize information is by showing connections between ideas and events that explain why things happen. Your reading makes more sense when you understand these *why* connections. Look for clue words that signal **cause and effect**. The thing that happens is the **effect**. The reason why it happens, or what made it happen, is the **cause**. Clue words that signal **causes** include *because*, *since*, *reason for*, *due to*, and *on account of*. Clue words that signal **effects** are *then*, *so*, *led to*, *as a result*, *therefore*, and *in order that*.

Comparison and Contrast

A third way writers organize information is by pointing out similarities and differences. When you note similarities between two things, actions, or ideas, you're **comparing**. When you note differences between them, you're **contrasting**.

This Venn diagram compares and contrasts two ancient cultures.



The middle of the diagram shows how the Indus Valley culture and the Kush were similar. It **compares** the two civilizations. The outer part of each circle shows how the two were different. They **contrast** the two civilizations.

These are some other ways that authors might choose to organize information:

- as a series of problems and solutions
- as a series of questions and answers
- in order of importance, from greatest to least

Can you think of others?

Guided Practice

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

How Do Crocodiles Cross Oceans?

by Clarice Jones

Science has made another discovery by serendipity. Researchers in Australia who were investigating how crocodiles establish their territory have accidentally solved a scientific mystery: How did the saltwater crocodile, a poor swimmer, manage to populate so many widely scattered regions, from India to Australia and countless islands between?

The saltwater crocodile is the world's largest reptile. It lives and hunts in estuaries, the environment where freshwater rivers meet the sea. It spends most of its life in salty water, but it must drink freshwater, and it takes much of its prey on land. Now and then, sailors have reported seeing large crocodiles far out at sea, but scientists have been unable to confirm or explain the sightings.

The Australian scientists were studying the habits of crocodiles along a 39-mile stretch of the Kennedy River. They tagged 27 adult saltwater crocodiles with sonar transmitters and tracked their movements for more than a year. They found that crocodiles of both sexes regularly traveled to the mouth of the river and far out to sea. The key discovery was that they always began their journeys within an hour of the tide changing. When the tide reversed, the crocs would climb out of the river or dive to the bottom. The scientists, led by researcher Hamish Campbell, realized that the animals weren't swimming but were riding the river's current. They reasoned that this must be how they made sea voyages, too—by riding currents on the ocean surfaces.

Campbell and his team next studied the sparse data that had been gathered from satellite tracking of crocodiles far out at sea. By correlating the crocodiles' movements with what is known about ocean currents, they determined that the animals were indeed following the same strategy they did in rivers. One croc was found to have traveled 366 miles over 25 days, riding a current that develops off Australia's north coast. Another was tracked moving through the Torres Straits, notorious among sailors for its strong currents. When the current turned against it, the crocodile swam into a bay and waited. After four days, the current reversed direction, and the reptile resumed its journey.

The discovery explains why the saltwater crocodile has remained one species instead of diverging into many species in its isolated habitats. There has likely been regular mixing and mating among the populations of different islands and river systems. What is still not clear is *why* crocodiles undertake these long voyages. Campbell thinks that it may have something to do with fish migrations. The crocodiles may be riding the currents to satisfy their huge appetites.



serendipity
*making lucky discoveries
by accident*



sonar
*a system for locating
objects under water
by the reflection of
sound waves*

Analyze the structure of the passage. Which of these *best* describes how the passage is organized?

- A** It describes a step-by-step process.
- B** It describes a series of causes and effects.
- C** It defines a problem and then explains the solution.
- D** It presents information in order of importance, from greatest to least.



"How do Crocodiles Cross Oceans?" is an article that explains a scientific discovery and how it was made. Part of the passage describes a step-by-step process, and it does describe a couple of cause-and-effect relationships, but the most interesting information—the main ideas—appear in the middle of the article. The first two paragraphs set forth a problem that had puzzled scientists, and the next two explain how it was solved. The correct answer is choice C.

What is the purpose of paragraph 2 in the structure of the passage?



This paragraph is still setting the scene for the information that follows. The author has told you in the first paragraph what the "scientific mystery" was. The second paragraph explains *why* it was a mystery. Here is a sample answer:

Paragraph 2 explains something about the habits of the saltwater crocodile and why scientists couldn't figure out how it could spend so much time at sea. The rest of the article explains how they figured it out.

Scout Troop 161 Sunrise Lake Hike and Picnic

Saturday, July 13

Getting There

From the Capitol Expressway, take Route 24 (exit 73) west for 46 miles to the town of Stillicoe. Continue 1.8 miles past Stillicoe and turn right on County Road 68. At 1.2 miles, keep left where the road forks. At 2.7 miles, pass under a railroad bridge. At 3.6 miles, turn right onto an unmarked gravel road. At 7 miles, turn right onto a rutted dirt road (look for a sign with a hiker icon) and drive about 120 feet to the parking area.

The Hike

Sunrise Lake is a three-mile hike from the trailhead with a 1,240-foot elevation gain. Allow about a half hour per mile, longer if you're hiking with small children. For the first half mile, the trail follows Surprise Creek. After you cross the creek on a log bridge, the trail turns left through a cool forest of oak and alder. The climb is gradual for the next 1.2 miles, with views of the creek occasionally visible on your right as it tumbles down Winthrop Mountain. At 1.7 miles, you reach the junction with the Coyote Ridge trail and the end of easy hiking. This is a good place to stop for a rest and a snack. From here, the trail follows a series of switchbacks up the mountain for a little more than a mile. You'll pass through the area burned by the Winthrop forest fire six years ago. Note the rockslide to the left caused by erosion, and be careful not to disturb any of the new growth on the hillside. At 2.8 miles, you reach the ridge crest. Turn right, and drop down the last 0.2 mile through meadow and talus slope to Sunrise Lake. The picnic will be near the big rock you'll see jutting out into the lake to the left.



switchback
trail or road that
winds up a steep
hill or incline
rather than going
straight up

FAQ

Is the water in Sunrise Lake drinkable? No, unless you bring water-purification tablets (available at the Scout Shop) or a pump filter. Bring at least two quarts of water per person.

What about food? Bring sandwiches, snacks, and other prepared food. Campfires are not allowed at Sunrise Lake, but leaders are bringing backpacking stoves for coffee and hot chocolate.

What else should I bring? Every individual should have warm clothing and rain gear. Every group of hikers should have sunscreen, insect repellent, a compass, and a trail map (available at the ranger station in Stillicoe).

How do scouts get credit for the hiking merit badge? See Ms. Hollowell or Mr. Kraemer to get checked off at trail's end.

- 5 Analyze passage 2. What two organizational structures did the author use?

- 6 Read this sentence from passage 2.

At 3.6 miles, turn right onto an unmarked gravel road.

Why is this an important sentence?

- 7 What will hikers find after they reach the junction with the Coyote Ridge trail?

- A The trail gets steeper.
- B There are waterfalls to see.
- C There is a log bridge to cross.
- D The forest becomes more dense.

