

How Texts Are Organized

Chronological Order

How is the information organized?

The writer describes a series of events in the order in which they occur in time.

Word clues to show chronological order

first, second; after this, to begin with; after, before, next

Example of chronological order organization

Volunteers to the Rescue

After news of the hurricane spread like wildfire, volunteers contacted animal rescue agencies to help animals affected by the hurricane. *Day after day*, the volunteers arrived in the affected neighborhoods to aid pets and other wildlife.

Cause and Effect

How is the information presented?

The writer relates results back to an original event.

Word clues to show cause and effect

due to; because of; as a result; if...then

Example of cause and effect organization

Volunteers to the Rescue

Due to the tireless efforts of volunteers who rescued injured and abandoned animals, hundreds of animals were saved after the hurricane. *As a result* of their selflessness, about 120 animals were released back into the wild, and 55 pets were returned to their owners.

Problem and Solution

How is the information presented?

The writer focuses on a problem and proposed solutions to the problem.

Word clues to show problem and solution organization

One solution; another proposition; in addition

Example of problem and solution organization

Volunteers to the Rescue

As the details of the tragic hurricane are being released, scientists are planning the rescue of hundreds of injured animals. *One possible solution* is to ask volunteers to wade through the shallow water collecting the animals carried from their homes by the wind and rain.

Compare and Contrast

How is the information presented?

The writer focuses on how ideas are similar (comparison) and how they are different (contrast).

Word clues to show compare and contrast organization

To compare: similarly; equally important; also;

To contrast: in contrast; on the other hand; in spite of; yet

Example of compare and contrast organization

Volunteers to the Rescue

Similar to the rescue of the residents stranded by the hurricane, volunteers searched every house for stranded animals. *In contrast* to the Red Cross that does not allow animals in shelters, organizations like Animal League America set up special refuges to house dogs, cats and other pets.