

Notes: Text Structure - How information is organized in a passage is the structure.

Five commonly used patterns of organization:

1. **Sequence:** information is organized in an ordered pattern: **steps or a process** is explained in the order in which it occurs.
 - a. **Chronological:** information in the passage is organized in **order of time**. **Signal Words:** *first, next, during, finally, meanwhile, date, etc.*
 - b. **Order of Importance:** information is listed in a **hierarchy or a priority**. **Signal Words:** *first, second, before, next, finally, meanwhile, in conclusion*
2. **Cause and Effect:** The **results** of something are explained. **Signal Words:** *so, because, since, therefore, as a result, may be due, consequences*
3. **Problem and Solution:** a **problem is described and a response or solution** is proposed or explained. **Signal Words:** *the question is... fortunately, unfortunately, as a result, issue, therefore, trouble, problem*
4. **Compare and Contrast:** **two** or more things are described. Their **similarities and differences are discussed**. **Signal Words:** *different from, same as, in contrast, as well as, more, less*
5. **Spatial / Descriptive Writing:** information is organized in **order of space** (top to bottom, left to right) or **describe in details**. **Signal Words:** *next to, beside, up, down, to the right of, under*