

## Homework #4

### Rhetorical Patterns

#### Recognizing Patterns in Sentences

**Directions:** Decide which relationship—cause and effect, comparison and contrast, or time order—organizes the following sentences. Then, choose the appropriate answer. Pay attention to connectors.

1. As both statesman and human being, John Adams was much more open and direct than was his longtime friend and sometime enemy Thomas Jefferson

- a. Cause and effect
- b. Comparison and contrast
- c. Time order

2. The terrorist attack of September 11, 2001 has caused a dramatic change in the organization of the FBI.

- a. Cause and effect
- b. Comparison and contrast
- c. Time order

3. In 1925 the economy appeared to be booming, but by 1929 the country was plunged into depression.

- a. Cause and effect
- b. Comparison and contrast
- c. Time order

4. Stars in the universe are born, radiate energy, and then expand, contract, possibly explode, and eventually die.

- a. Cause and effect
- b. Comparison and contrast
- c. Time order

5. The gravitational forces of the Moon and Sun produce changes in the ocean tides on Earth.

- a. Cause and effect
- b. Comparison and contrast
- c. Time order

6. A diet low in carbohydrates not only results in faster weight loss but also appears to lower cholesterol.

- a. Cause and effect
- b. Comparison and contrast
- c. Time order

7. Contrary to popular belief, tap water is often healthier than bottled water.

- a. Cause and effect
- b. Comparison and contrast
- c. Time order

8. After thirty to forty-five minutes in stage 4 sleep, you quickly return to stage 2 and enter a special stage in which your eyes move rapidly under your closed eyelids.

- a. Cause and effect
- b. Comparison and contrast
- c. Time order

9. Compared to truth tellers, liars usually blink their eyes more often, speak in a higher pitched voice, give shorter responses, and make more speech errors.

- a. Cause and effect
- b. Comparison and contrast
- c. Time order

10. An immigrant who wants to become an American citizen must first live here for five years, and then submit an application, pass a test about American government, and, finally, swear loyalty to the United States.

- a. Cause and effect
- b. Comparison and contrast
- c. Time order

## Recognizing Patterns in Paragraphs

**Directions:** Choose the appropriate option to identify the pattern or patterns in each paragraph. Pay attention to any transitional words (signal words) or connectors.

1. In hot climates such as Mexico, foods tend to be spicy because the spices actually have a cooling effect. The heat-causing chemical in chile peppers raises your heart rate and also causes you to perspire, especially on your head and face. As this moisture evaporates, heat is pulled away from the body. As a result, you feel cooler. This reaction explains why so many dishes in tropical areas are flavored with hot sauce. It also explains why people who live in these areas become fond of eating whole hot peppers straight from the jar. (Source of information: Joy E. Zacharia, "Cool Down With Hot Sauce," *Southern Living*, August 2004, p. 83.)

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|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. definition          | d. time order: dates and events |
| b. classification      | e. comparison and contrast      |
| c. time order: process | f. cause and effect             |

2. Recyclable plastic containers are classified into seven groups, depending upon their type of plastic. Plastics stamped with 1 inside a small triangle or arrows include the thin type of plastic used to make drink bottles, such as those containing soda and water. Plastics labeled with a 2 are a thicker type used for containers of laundry detergent, bleach, milk, shampoo, and motor oil. Cooking oil bottles are examples of type 3 recyclable plastic. Type 4 plastics are the thinner kinds used to make grocery bags and sandwich bags. Harder and sturdier plastic containers, such as Tupperware® and yogurt containers, are labeled 5. Type 6 plastics include styrofoam cups and trays. Finally, any container labeled 7 contains either some combination of the other six types or another less commonly used plastic.

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|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. definition          | d. time order: dates and events |
| b. classification      | e. comparison and contrast      |
| c. time order: process | f. cause and effect             |



3. A series of machines transforms ordinary carrots into the popular peeled "baby" carrots we buy in bags in our grocery's produce department. First, harvesting machines pull the ordinary carrots from the ground by their green tops. The carrots ride up conveyer belts to the top of the picker, where an automatic cutter chops off the greens. Next, the carrots are transported by truck to a processing plant, where they are plunged into icy water and cooled to 37 degrees. They are then sorted by thickness, and the thin carrots continue on to be shaped into two-inch pieces by automatic cutters. These pieces go to peeling tanks, where automatic peelers rotate, scraping the skin off the carrots. Finally, the carrots are weighed, bagged, and put into cold storage until they are shipped to grocery stores. (Source of information: "From Field to Shelf," no author credited, USA Today, August 12, 2004, p. 2D.)

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|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. definition          | d. time order: dates and events |
| b. classification      | e. comparison and contrast      |
| c. time order: process | f. cause and effect             |

4. Oxidation is a chemical reaction that occurs when a material combines with oxygen and electrons (negatively-charged particles) are removed. Slow oxidation is occurring, for example, when metals such as iron and steel form rust. The tarnishing of silverware is another example of slow oxidation. Burning with fire is a faster oxidation reaction. The cells of the human body, too, convert food to energy through the process of oxidation. Bleaching, the removal of stains or color from fabric, is yet another process that involves oxidation. Oxidation is also an essential reaction within the batteries we use to power tools, vehicles, and toys.

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|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. definition          | d. time order: dates and events |
| b. classification      | e. comparison and contrast      |
| c. time order: process | f. cause and effect             |

5. In some cases, analysis of texts has shown that men and women tend to have different styles of writing. They differ, first of all, in the amount of personal pronouns they use. For instance, women are far more likely than men to use pronouns like "I," "you," and "she." Men also tend to use words like "a," "the," "that," and "these" more than women do. They also are more inclined to use numbers and quantifying words like "more" and "several." In contrast to women, men more readily modify nouns with phrases rather than single words. For example, a woman will probably write "rose garden"

whereas a man would write "garden of roses." (Source of information: Clive Thompson, "He and She: What's the Real Difference?" The Boston Globe, July 6, 2003.)

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|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. definition          | d. time order: dates and events |
| b. classification      | e. comparison and contrast      |
| c. time order: process | f. cause and effect             |

### Recognizing Patterns of Organization

**Directions:** For each paragraph, select the pattern used.

1. As you might already know, there is no direct intermixing of blood between a mother and her unborn child. However, some substances—especially drugs—can still have a powerful effect on the fetus. If, for example, the mother is addicted to morphine, heroin, or methadone, the baby may be born with the same addiction. For that matter, even high doses of aspirin appear to have some effect on the fetus. In at least one study, high doses of aspirin have been linked to lowered IQs in infants.

- a. Cause and effect
- b. Comparison and contrast

2. At one time or another, most of us have suffered from nightmares. Nightmares are bad dreams that take place during the deepest level of sleep. They are usually brief and upon waking can be remembered in detail. Night terrors, however, are a good deal more anxiety producing. During a night terror, the sleeper experiences a feeling of total panic, and that panic may last for fifteen or twenty minutes. During this time, the victim may scream or shout in fear. Usually, however, upon waking, the sleeper only vaguely remembers what caused the terror.

- a. Cause and effect
- b. Comparison and contrast

3. In a study of happiness, researcher Jonathan freedman asked a hundred people to give their definitions of happiness. The results of Freedman's study suggest that people really do differ in how they define happiness. About half of Freedman's subjects spoke of happiness in terms of excitement and good times. To them, happiness was a life full of fun. The other half, however, thought of happiness in terms of contentment,



satisfaction, or freedom from worries. For these people, happiness was peace of mind. Yet while some stressed pleasurable activity and others stressed quiet contentment, the difference was really a matter of emphasis. Almost everyone agreed that both good times and peace of mind are central to being happy. (Adapted from Rubin et al., *Psychology*, p. 420.)

- a. Cause and effect
- b. Comparison and contrast

4. Since the early 1970s, unions have begun to lose both members and power. Why? One major reason is that unions were born among blue-collar workers. Now blue-collar employment is shrinking while white-collar employment is growing. Unfortunately, unions have been slow to respond to this shift in the work force, and they have suffered for it. Some experts think that America's unions will never recover from their current slump.

- a. Cause and effect
- b. Comparison and contrast

5. Americans love junk food. Every year, we consume vast quantities of candy, cookies, pretzels, soda, and chips. Why do we do it? We do it because junk food tastes good. However, we are also undoubtedly influenced by advertising. Just consider the number of commercials that celebrate the benefits of junk food. Want to feel lively and popular? All you have to do is drink brand X cola. Want to impress your friends? Offer them a bag of brand Y chips. No wonder we can't stop munching.

- a. Cause and effect
- b. Comparison and contrast

### **Recognizing Mixed Patterns of Organization**

**Directions:** Choose the option that identifies the patterns organizing each paragraph. Pay attention to signal words.

1. Internet addicts use the Internet so compulsively that it interferes with some or all parts of their daily life, and there appear to be four different types of addiction. The first type is cybersexual addiction. This term refers to people obsessed with visiting adult chat rooms and pornographic web sites. Those afflicted with this form of the addiction can't stay away from sexually-oriented sites even while at work. The second type is cyber-relationship addiction. This addiction occurs when a computer user ignores real-life relationships with friends and relatives, investing time and energy only in online pals. Victims of net compulsion obsessively participate in online

auctions. When they are not buying and selling on line, they use the Internet for game playing. The final and fourth type of Internet addiction is called information overload. This addiction is characterized by endless web surfing or information searches. (Source of information: Carol C. Kanar, *The Confident Student*, 5th ed., Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2004, p. 179.)

- a. definition, time order (process), cause and effect
- b. classification, time order (dates and events), comparison and contrast
- c. classification, definition, cause and effect

2. Carbonated waters are waters that have been injected with carbon dioxide. It's the carbon dioxide that gives them their "fizzy" or bubbly quality. Yet, the various carbonated waters differ from one another in terms of their ingredients. Beverages labeled "club soda" or "soda water," for example, contain sodium bicarbonate or baking soda. Carbonated waters called "seltzer" and "sparkling water," on the other hand, consist of only water and carbon dioxide. Some carbonated waters also contain sugar while others do not. "Tonic water" contains 2.6 to 2.9 grams of sugar per fluid ounce whereas club soda is sugar-free. Carbonated waters can also contain other kinds of ingredients. Tonic water, for instance, contains quinine, a bitter, colorless substance that is also found in medicines used to treat malaria, while club soda includes mineral salts such as citrate and phosphate.

- a. definition, classification, time order (dates and events)
- b. definition, comparison and contrast, cause and effect
- c. time order (process) with cause and effect

3. Studies have revealed that, on average, about 8 minutes elapse between the collapse of someone suffering from cardiac arrest, or heartbeat cessation, and the first shock delivered by paramedics in order to return the heart to its normal rhythm. The time that elapses from a 911 telephone call to notification of the paramedic crew is about 0.6 minutes. It then takes an average of 4.2 minutes for the paramedics to arrive at the scene. The paramedics need 0.9 minutes to get to the patient's side. A heart analysis takes the next 1.6 minutes. The time between this analysis and the delivery of the first shock used to regulate the heartbeat is 0.3 minutes. This total of 7.6 minutes costs lives. The data shows that if a victim is shocked six or more minutes after collapsing, he or she almost always dies. If the victim is shocked within six minutes after having the heart attack, he or she almost

always lives. (Source of information: Robert Davis, "Time is of the Essence," USA Today, August 12, 2004, p. 6D.)

- a. time order (dates and events), definition, classification
- b. time order (process) with cause and effect
- c. time order (process) with classification

4. Since the nineteenth century, San Francisco Bay's Alcatraz Island has been home to a military fort, a military prison, a famous federal prison, and a national park. In the early 1850s, the U.S. Army constructed a fortress on the island to protect San Francisco Bay. By the late 1850s, the military began housing prisoners on the island, and in 1909, the Army tore down the fortress and built a new military prison on its foundation. This prison building, which was completed in 1911, became known as "The Rock." In 1933, the U.S. Department of Justice wanted to show the American public that it was serious about dealing with the crime wave that had swept the nation in the 1920s and 1930s. Therefore, it designated the island for use as a maximum-security, minimum-privilege U.S. Penitentiary for the most dangerous of federal prison inmates. For the next 29 years, several well-known criminals—including Al Capone and other notorious gangsters—did time on Alcatraz. During this period, there were fourteen separate escape attempts. Although none of them officially succeeded, five prisoners were never found and were presumed drowned. By the 1960s, the government concluded that building a new institution would be more cost-effective than keeping the expensive Alcatraz open. Consequently, on March 21, 1963, the Alcatraz penitentiary closed. The island was abandoned until 1972, when it became part of the National Park Service. Today, more than a million people visit the island each year. (Source of information: Federal Bureau of Prisons, "A Brief History of Alcatraz," <http://www.bop.gov/ipapg/ipaalcatraz.html>)

- a. definition and cause and effect
- b. time order (dates and events) with cause and effect
- c. comparison and contrast, definition, and classification

5. According to the National Hurricane Center, a hurricane is a tropical cyclone with several distinct characteristics. A hurricane is always born in tropical areas of the Atlantic Ocean near the equator. It is cyclonic, which means that its winds swirl around a central eye, or low-pressure area. When these winds reach a sustained speed of at least 74 miles per hour, the storm is defined as a hurricane. Most hurricanes originate off the coast of Africa as



thunderstorms that move out over the warm, tropical waters of the ocean. The thunderstorm begins to draw warm, humid ocean air into itself. Then, this moist air condenses, releasing heat in the process. As the heat moves from the surface into the atmosphere, winds begin to circulate around a center. The wind speeds continue to increase as high-pressure air in the atmosphere above the storm's center is sucked into the low-pressure center of the storm. The hurricane moves westward toward higher latitudes as it grows larger and stronger.

(Source of information: Marshall Brain and Craig C. Freudenrich, "How Hurricanes Work," <http://science.howstuffworks.com/hurricane.htm>)

- a. definition, time order (process), cause and effect
- b. classification and cause and effect
- c. comparison and contrast, time order (dates and events) and classification

#### Source

Flemming, Laraine. "Textbook author and teacher". 28 August 2006. 22 september 2006. <<http://www.laflemm.com/>>. Path: Reading for thinking on line practice; Recognizing mixed patterns

### Recognizing Overall Patterns of Organization

**Read the following titles of different types of readings and match them with the rhetorical pattern that best describes the title.**

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|------------------------|-----------|--|
| 1. Narrative           | (       ) | The Effects of Plastic Pollution             |
| 2. Argumentation       | (       ) | Different Kinds of Butterflies               |
| 3. Process             | (       ) | Comparing Educational Systems and Rights     |
| 4. Problem-Solution    | (       ) | "The Wonders of Costa Rica's Central Valley" |
| 5. Description         | (       ) | New Ways to Help Immigrants                  |
| 6. Definition          | (       ) | <i>Don Quixote</i>                           |
| 7. Classification      | (       ) | How to Install your Panasonic DVD            |
| 8. Comparison-Contrast | (       ) | Euthanasia Should be Legalized in Costa Rica |
| 9. Cause-Effect        | (       ) | "What is Anorexia?"                          |