Structure and Structural Elements in Writing

High School English Language Arts Worksheet

Part I – Understanding Text Structure

1. What does **text structure** refer to?

A. The author's choice of vocabulary
B. The way ideas and information are organized in a text
C. The number of paragraphs in a text
D. The length of a story

2. Which text structure presents events in the order in which they happen?

A. Cause and effect
B. Compare and contrast
C. Chronological order
D. Problem and solution

3. Which structure explains why something happened and what resulted from it?

A. Cause and effect
B. Description
C. Sequence
D. Compare and contrast

4. A passage explains how two characters are alike and different. Which structure is being used?

A. Problem and solution
B. Compare and contrast
C. Chronological order
D. Cause and effect

5. Which structure introduces a problem and then explains one or more ways to solve it?

A. Description
B. Cause and effect
C. Problem and solution
D. Chronological order

6. A writer describes the appearance, characteristics, and qualities of a particular place. Which structure is most likely being used?

A. Description
B. Compare and contrast
C. Cause and effect
D. Sequence

Part II – Identify the Structure

Directions: Read each passage. Write the type of structure being used.

Chronological Order • Cause & Effect • Compare & Contrast • Problem & Solution • Description

7. First, Maria gathered the ingredients. Next, she mixed the batter. After pouring it into a pan, she placed it in the oven. Finally, she allowed the cake to cool.

Structure: _____

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8. Because the town experienced several days of heavy rain, the river rose above its banks. As a result, several nearby roads were closed.

Structure: _____

9. Both novels feature young heroes who face difficult challenges. However, one hero relies on his intelligence, while the other depends primarily on physical strength.

Structure: _____

10. Many students struggle to manage their time. One solution is to create a daily schedule that divides large assignments into smaller tasks.

Structure: _____

11. The abandoned house stood at the end of the narrow road. Its windows were cracked, its paint was peeling, and thick vines covered the porch.

Structure: _____

Part III – Structural Elements
Directions: Choose the best answer.

12. What is the main purpose of an **introduction**?

A. To provide the final answer
B. To introduce the topic and prepare the reader for the text
C. To repeat every detail from the body
D. To introduce unrelated information

13. What is the purpose of a **topic sentence**?

A. To introduce the main idea of a paragraph
B. To provide the conclusion of an essay
C. To list every supporting detail
D. To summarize the entire text

14. What do **supporting details** do?

A. Introduce a completely new topic
B. Explain, develop, or provide evidence for the main idea
C. Replace the thesis statement
D. End the text

15. What is a **thesis statement**?

A. A question at the end of an essay
B. The central claim or main argument of an essay
C. A supporting example
D. A transition between paragraphs

16. What is the primary purpose of a **conclusion**?

A. To introduce a new main argument
B. To provide unrelated information
C. To bring the writing to a logical close
D. To add as many new details as possible

17. What is the purpose of **transitions** in writing?

A. To make the writing longer
B. To connect ideas and show relationships between them
C. To replace evidence
D. To eliminate paragraphs

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Part IV – Structural Elements in a Passage

Read the paragraph below.

(1) Exercise is an important part of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. **(2)** Regular physical activity can improve a person's strength, endurance, and overall well-being. **(3)** For example, walking, swimming, and cycling can strengthen the heart and improve physical fitness. **(4)** In addition, exercise can help people manage stress and improve their mood. **(5)** For these reasons, making physical activity a regular part of one's routine can provide many benefits.

18. Which sentence is the **topic sentence**?

A. Sentence 1
B. Sentence 2
C. Sentence 3
D. Sentence 5

19. Which sentence provides a specific example?

A. Sentence 1
B. Sentence 2
C. Sentence 3
D. Sentence 5

20. Which sentence provides an additional supporting point?

A. Sentence 1
B. Sentence 2
C. Sentence 4
D. Sentence 5

21. Which sentence functions primarily as the **conclusion**?

A. Sentence 1
B. Sentence 2
C. Sentence 3
D. Sentence 5

22. What transition is used in sentence 4?

A. For example
B. In addition
C. For these reasons
D. Regular

Part V – Putting Structure Together

23. Number the following sentences from **1–5** to create the most logical paragraph.

_____ As a result, many students find it easier to complete assignments on time.

_____ Creating a study schedule can help students become more organized.

_____ For example, a student might set aside an hour each evening for homework.

_____ A schedule also helps students avoid waiting until the last minute to complete assignments.

_____ Students often have difficulty balancing homework, activities, and other responsibilities.

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24. Which organizational structure would be BEST for an essay explaining how to prepare for a job interview?

A. Chronological/sequence
B. Compare and contrast
C. Cause and effect
D. Problem and solution

25. Which organizational structure would be BEST for an essay explaining the similarities and differences between online and traditional learning?

A. Chronological order
B. Compare and contrast
C. Problem and solution
D. Description

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