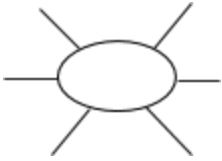
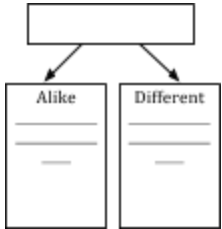
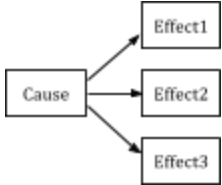



The 5 Expository Text Structures

Pattern	Description	Cue Words	Graphic Organizer	Sample Passage
<i>Description</i>	The author describes a topic by listing characteristics, features, and examples.	<i>characteristics are</i> <i>features are</i> <i>for example</i>		<p>A tornado is a rapidly rotating column of air formed in severe thunderstorms where the moisture rich air from the Gulf of Mexico collides with cold dry air over the plains. The vortex forms inside the cloud and grows downward until it touches the ground. Tornadoes can cause extreme damage due to the intensity of the high wind speeds (250+ mph) that make up the vortex. Tornadoes travel with the thunderstorm at an average a speed of 35 miles per hour. They usually only travel short distances and average about 5 miles. Tornadoes vary in shapes and sizes. Their dark color is due to the dirt and debris they pick up as they barrel over the terrain. Tornadoes tend to last for short period of time, from 10 seconds to a couple of hours. Tornadoes are most likely to occur between March and June in the Midwest states.</p>
<i>Sequence</i>	The author lists items or events in numerical or chronological order.	<i>first, second, third</i> <i>next</i> <i>then</i> <i>finally</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____ 	<p>One of the most violent and powerful types of weather is a tornado. Tornadoes consist of a very fast spinning column of air that forms a funnel shape. They are considered dangerous since their high-speed winds can blast through buildings, topple trees, and even toss trains or cars into the air. Tornadoes form from thunderstorm clouds called cumulonimbus clouds. However, it takes more than just a typical thunderstorm to cause a tornado. In order for a tornado to form, certain conditions must occur. First, a large thunderstorm occurs in a cumulonimbus cloud. Then, a change in wind direction and wind speed at high altitudes causes the air to swirl horizontally— usually when moist air from the Gulf of Mexico collides with cool dry air from the Northwest. Next, the funnel of swirling air begins to suck up more warm air from the ground. Finally, the funnel grows longer and stretches toward the ground. When the funnel touches the ground, it is considered a tornado.</p>

<p><i>Comparison</i></p>	<p>The author explains how two or more things are alike and/or how they are different</p>	<p><i>Different in contrast alike same as on the other hand</i></p>		<p>Tornado and hurricanes appear to be similar in their basic structure. They both have extremely strong horizontal winds swirling around the center and both can cause significant damage. The most obvious difference between tornadoes and hurricanes is that they have drastically different scales. They form under different circumstances and have different impacts on the environment. Tornadoes are considered small-scale circulations, the largest observed horizontal dimensions in the most severe cases being on the order of 1 to 1.5 miles. They often develop over the Central Plains during spring and early summer when the moist, warm air from the Gulf of Mexico clashes with the cold dry air coming from the Northwest. While tornadoes can cause much destruction on the ground, (winds range from 100 to 300 mph), they last only a short time and travel short distances. Hurricanes, on the other hand, are large-scale circulations with horizontal dimensions from 60 to well over 1000 miles in diameter. Hurricanes always form over the warm waters of the tropical oceans where they draw their energy. They travel thousands of miles and persist over several days.</p>
<p><i>Cause and Effect</i></p>	<p>The author lists one or more causes and the resulting effect or effects</p>	<p><i>reasons why if...then as a result therefore because</i></p>		<p>Tornadoes form in conjunction with thunderstorms in places where there is moist, warm air meets a cold front. These conditions increase wind speed when the wind changes direction in a storm. This creates an invisible, horizontal spinning effect forming the tornado. Often, tornadoes form within the hail and strong winds from the thunderstorms and may not be seen right away. Until it grows in strength and begins picking up debris, tornadoes can be nearly transparent. Most of the structural damage done during a tornado is due to the strong wind speeds and the debris that is picked up and tossed around. As a result of a strong or violent tornado you may witness large trees being uprooted and flying through the air like missiles, buildings can be turned to rubble, and cars tossed like toys. A brief tornado touchdown may leave as little as a few yards of damage. A big tornado that stays on the ground can leave a path of destruction. The 2007 tornado that destroyed 95 percent of Greensburg, Kansas was just under two miles wide and produced winds of 205 mph.</p>
<p><i>Problem and Solution</i></p>	<p>The author states a problem and lists one or more solutions for the problem. A variation of this pattern is the question-and-answer format in which the author poses a question and then answers it.</p>	<p><i>problem is dilemma is puzzle is solved question... answer</i></p>		<p>Tornadoes are a one of the worst natural disasters. The dangers posed by the strong winds and swirling debris can threaten both property and people. The National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) estimates that, on average, about 1,200 tornadoes occur across the country annually. Tornadoes are responsible for an average of 70 deaths and 1,500 injuries per year. Property damage can reach billions. Since there is no way to eliminate tornadoes, we must look for ways to minimize their impact. One solution is to continue to support severe weather research and make improvements to weather forecasts to warn people to seek shelter. Warning systems could take advantage of social media, television, radio, and sirens. Another solution is to adopt more stringent building codes in tornado-prone areas.</p>