The 5 Expository Text Structures

Pattern	Description	Cue Words	Graphic Organizer	Sample Passage
Description	The author describes a topic by listing characteristics, features, and examples.			
Sequence	The author lists items or events in numerical or chronological order.			

Comparison	The author explains how two or more things are alike and/or how they are different		
<i>Cause and Effect</i>	The author lists one or more causes and the resulting effect or effects		
Problem and Solution	The author states a problem and lists one or more solutions for the problem. A variation of this pattern is the question-and-answe r format in which the author poses a question and then answers it.		