Purpose: to state one or more problems and provide one or more solutions to the problem.

Signal Words and Phrases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>problem</th>
<th>answer</th>
<th>so that</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>solution</td>
<td>solved</td>
<td>led to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dilemma</td>
<td>cause</td>
<td>issue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>puzzle</td>
<td>since</td>
<td>advantage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>because</td>
<td>as a result of</td>
<td>disadvantage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>question</td>
<td>in order to</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comprehension Question Frames

1. What is the problem?
2. Who has the problem?
3. Why is it a problem?
4. What is causing the problem?
5. What solutions have been suggested or tried?
6. What are the pros and cons of various solutions?
7. Which solutions worked or seem to have the best chance for solving the problem?

Graphic Organizers
Description

Purpose: to explain a topic, concept, person, place, event or object, by providing characteristics, features and/or giving examples.

### Signal Words and Phrases

| position words (e.g., beside, near, in front of, above, along) | such as | most important, notable | specifically |
| such as | most important, notable | specifically |
| for instance | features | characteristics |
| appears to be | made up of | consists of |
| looks like | in fact | for example |

### Comprehension Question Frames

1. What is the subject being described?
2. How is the topic being described (i.e., where it is, what it does, how it works, what it looks like, its classification)?
3. What are the most important attributes or characteristics?

### Graphic Organizers

![Graphic Organizer 1]

![Graphic Organizer 2]
Purpose: to describe what is similar and/or different about two or more subjects.

### Signal Words and Phrases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>both</th>
<th>similarity</th>
<th>either-or</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>also</td>
<td>opposite</td>
<td>yet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>too</td>
<td>different from</td>
<td>on the contrary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>just as</td>
<td>compared to</td>
<td>on the other hand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>instead of</td>
<td>however</td>
<td>in contrast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>but</td>
<td>as opposed to</td>
<td>in comparison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alike</td>
<td>same as</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unlike</td>
<td>despite</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Comprehension Question Frames

1. What subjects are being compared?
2. What is it about them that is being compared?
3. What characteristics of the subjects form the basis of the comparison?
4. What characteristics do they have in common? How are they alike?
5. In what ways are they different?

### Graphic Organizers

- Venn diagram with overlapping circles labeled "Alike" and "Different"
Purpose: to provide information in time order or the order in which events, actions, or steps in a process occur.

**Signal Words and Phrases**
- first/second/third
- then
- next
- last
- initially
- during
- directions
- before
- now
- after
- at the same time
- as soon as
- prior to
- step
- following
- simultaneously
- meanwhile
- finally

**Comprehension Question Frames**
1. What sequence of events is being described?
2. What are the major events or incidents that occur?
3. What happens first, next, last?
4. How is the sequence or cycle revealed in the text?
5. What are the steps, directions, procedures to follow to make or do something?

**Graphic Organizers**
1. _______________________________
2. _______________________________
3. _______________________________
4. _______________________________
Cause and Effect

Purpose: explain why or how something happened/happens
Effect = What happened       Cause = Why it happened

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>because</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>so</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>therefore</td>
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<tr>
<td>as a result</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>since</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in order to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>is caused by</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Comprehension Question Frames
1. What were the specific events that happened?
2. Why did the events happen? What were the causes?
3. What were the results or outcomes of these events happening? What was the effect?
4. Did prior events cause or influence the main event? If so, in what ways?
5. What is the significance of the event and/or the results (outcomes)?

Graphic Organizers