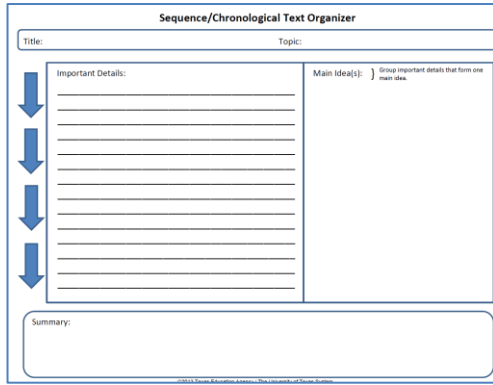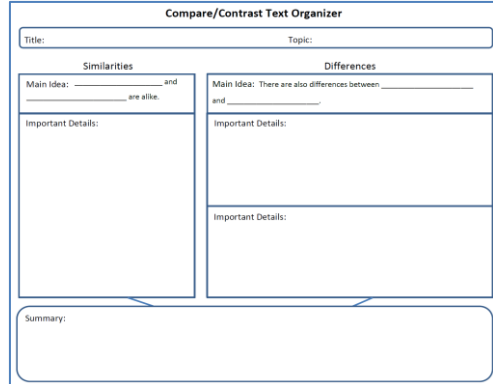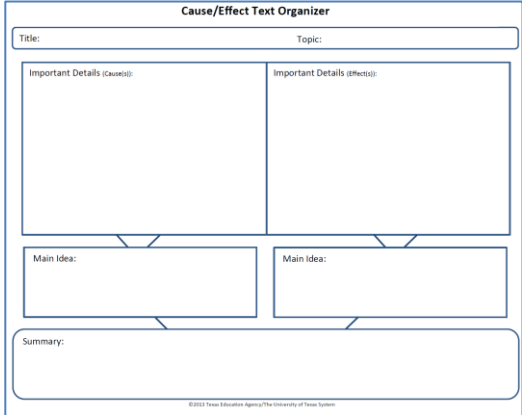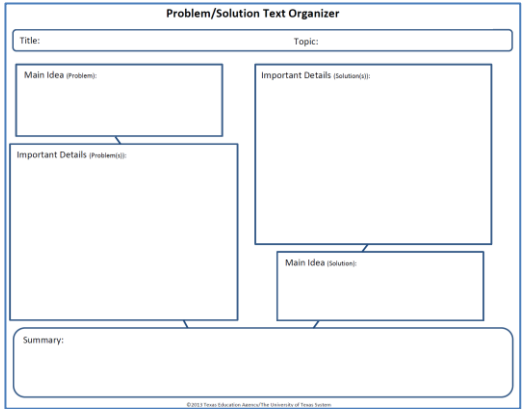# Informational Text Structure Chart

Informational Text Structure	Description/Purpose of Text Structure	Signs of Text Structure	Example Graphic Organizer
Descriptive	Descriptive texts are written to describe an object, person, place, event or idea.	• Specific characteristics or features are described or explained (size, shape, location, color, etc.). • Descriptive adjectives are used throughout the text. • Details are provided to help the reader visualize the topic. • Examples are often provided (for instance, such as, an example, to illustrate, to demonstrate). • The topic word or a synonym for the topic is often repeated.	

Sequential	Sequence/chronological texts are written to show how to do something, explain the progression of something, or to relate a series of events that happen over time.	• Signal Words:
		  – first, second, third
		  – next, after, not long after, later, following, then
		  – before, prior to, earlier, previously
		  – during, meanwhile, in the meantime, throughout
		  – finally, last, lastly
		  – most recent, now, soon	

Compare / Contrast	Compare/Contrast texts are written to explain how two or more ideas, events, things or people are alike and different from each other.	• Signal Words:
		  – both, as well as, ___ and ___, either, each, also, likewise
		  – similar, alike, compared to, same, common
		  – however, yet, but, although, on the other hand, than, conversely
		  – as opposed to, in contrast, different from, differences between	

Informational Text Structure Chart

Cause / Effect	Cause/Effect texts are written to explain how or why something happened, exists or operates. A cause is the reason for the occurrence and the effect is what happened as a result of the cause. Sometimes there are multiple causes and/or effects.	• Signal Words: − cause, because, since, the reason for, due to − effect, as a result, so, for this reason − therefore, consequently, subsequently	
Problem / Solution	Problem/Solution texts are written to explain a problem and possible solutions. Once the problem has been defined, one or more solutions are described.	• Signal Words: − problem, challenge, difficulty − because, since, due to, reason for, however − solution, resolution, solve, suggestion, recommendation, change, answer, to address the problem, prevent	