

BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE
(Schema)



- What do I already know?
- Think
- My prior knowledge & the new information help me understand

DETERMINING IMPORTANCE



- What is *my* purpose for reading this text?
- What is the *author's* purpose for writing this text?
- Identify key ideas
- Use text features to help identify important ideas, concepts, and details

PREDICTING
A smart guess based on clues



- I think . . .
- I'll bet . . .
- I wonder . . .
- I imagine . . .
- I suppose . . .
- I predict . . .

SYNTHESIZING
Combining new information with what I know to create a new understanding



- Ideas, insights
- Create, design
- Invent, construct
- Share, recommend
- Critique

QUESTIONING

Who?

What?

When?

Where?

Why?

How?

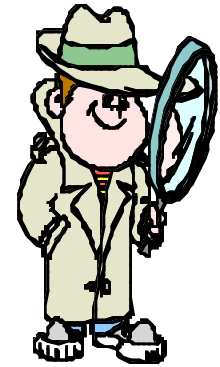
What if?



INFERRING

When the author does not answer my questions I must infer

- Maybe . . .
- I think . . .
- It could be . . .
- It's because . . .
- Perhaps . . .
- It means that . . .
- I'm guessing . . .



SUMMARIZING



- Find the main ideas
- Determine important themes and concepts
- Put the ideas in my own words

VISUALIZING

Looks like, smells like, tastes like, feels like, sounds like....

Making pictures in my mind as I read

- Think about the story
- Imagine what the characters look like
- Imagine what the setting looks like
- Use all my senses to think about the story



MAKING CONNECTIONS



- Has something like this happened in my life?
- Have I read about this in another book?
- Have I even heard of this happening in the world around me?

CLARIFYING & SELF-MONITORING

- Slow down
- Reread, reread, reread
- Activate prior knowledge
- Read it out loud
- Ask, does it make sense?
- Talk to a friend



COMPREHENSION FIX-UP STRATEGIES

- Stop if there is a problem
- Reread - is it clarified?
- Read on- does it make sense?
- Read the confusing part aloud
- Read more slowly
- Check punctuation - does it help meaning?
- Look carefully at illustrations
- Think about the text structure - does it give you clues?
- Identify confusing words - use word fix-up strategies
- discuss the text with a friend - retell main points and try to identify confusing parts
- Ask someone for help

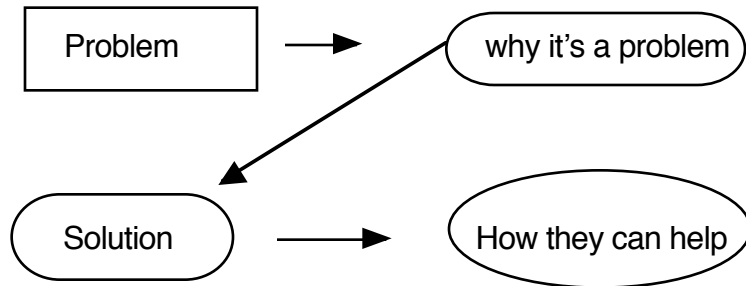
WORD FIX-UP STRATEGIES

- Slow down
- Look carefully at the word
- Look for known word parts
- Blend the sounds
- Listen to the word
- See if it makes sense
- Look for clues in pictures
- Read ahead
- Reread
- Ask someone for help

Problem / Solution

Describes a problem and its cause and offers one or more solutions:

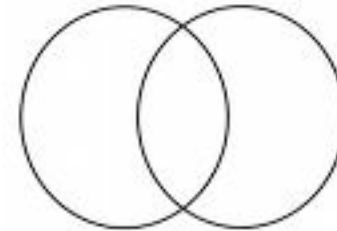
Key words: one reason is, a solution, a problem, outcome, solved by, issues are, etc.



Compare/Contrast

Presents and describes how two or more topics are similar or different.

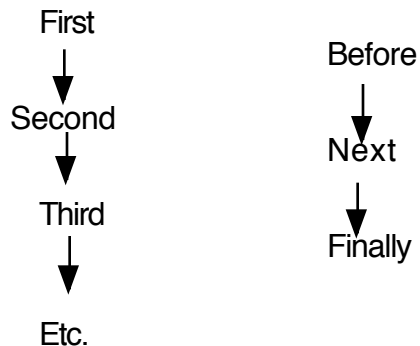
Key words: on the other hand, and yet, while, similarly, same as, as opposed to, likewise, etc.



Sequence/Chronological

Details support a main topic and are present in a specific or time order.

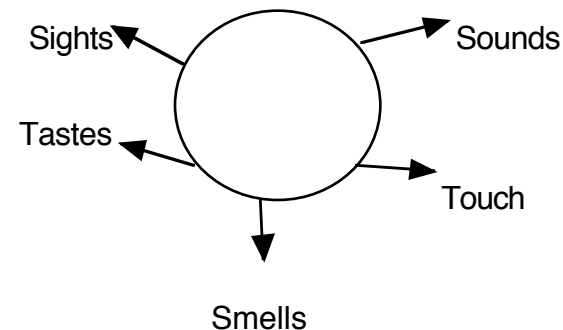
Key words: until, before, after, next, finally, now, first, last, then, on (date), at (time), 1st, 2nd, etc.



Description

Offers information about a topic, concept, event person, idea, or object by describing attributes, features, facts, details, traits, and characteristics.

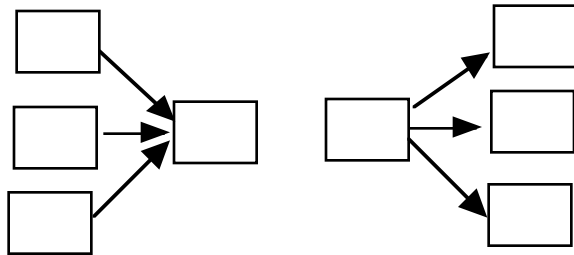
Key words: for example, such as, look at, like as, by observing, characteristics, etc.



Cause & Effect

Presents and describes events and actions and gives reasons and/or consequences for these.

Key words: since, so that, nevertheless, because, for this reason, if...then, therefore, consequently, then this lead to, as a result, due to, etc.



Question & Answer

Poses a question about a topic, event, concept, or an idea; presents causes of the problem and offers one or more solutions.

Key words: how, when, what, where, why, who, how many, it could be that, etc.

Question	Answer

INFORMATIONAL TEXT STRUCTURES *FEATURES*

Title	Table of Contents	Index
Headings	Graphs	Charts
Italics	Illustrations	Maps
Photographs	Captions	Appendix
Bolded words	Diagrams	

ORGANIZATIONAL PATTERNS

Problem /Solution, Compare /Contrast
 Classification, Description, Sequence/Process
 Chronology, Cause /Effect, Question /Answer /
 Argument, Enumeration (lists), Exemplification Analysis

QAR

Right There - The answer can be found in one place in the text.
 (reread/scan/look for key words/ think: who, what, where, when, how)

Think and Search - The answer can be found in several places in the text. (skim/look for important information/ rephrase summarize / think; examples, descriptions, comparisons)

Author and you - The answer develops in your head from clues in the text.(reread/think about the main idea, what you know, and what the author is saying in the text/predict)

On Your Own - The answer comes from your own thoughts. (think about what you already know. Make connections to self, other texts, and the world, develop new ideas)

