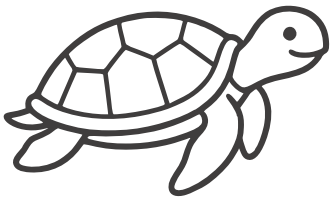
Name _____ Date _____

# Comparing Text Structures

**Read both texts about sea turtles. The questions are on the next page.**

Text 1

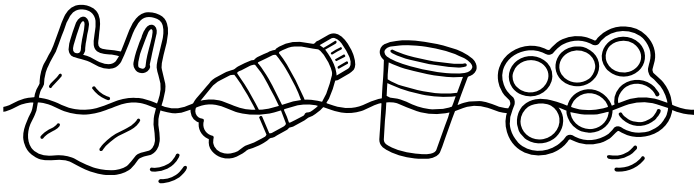
## A Loggerhead's Long Journey



A loggerhead sea turtle's life begins on a sandy beach. After about two months in the nest, the hatchlings dig their way out, usually at night. Then they scramble to the water. Once they are in the ocean, they swim hard for a day or more until they reach the open sea. For the next several years, the young turtles drift with the currents. They hide and feed in mats of floating seaweed. Scientists once called this time "the lost years," because they knew so little about it. As the turtles grow larger, they move to waters closer to shore. Finally, when a female is grown, about 20 to 35 years later, she returns to lay her own eggs, usually on a beach in the same area where she hatched.

Text 2

## Plastic in the Sea



Sea turtles face a growing problem: plastic. To a hungry turtle, a floating plastic bag can look a lot like a jellyfish, one of its foods. A turtle that swallows plastic may feel full, stop eating and grow weak. Turtles can also get tangled in old fishing nets and lines, or caught in nets that are still being used. People are working on solutions. Many cities and countries have banned plastic shopping bags or charge money for them. Volunteers clean beaches and collect trash before it washes into the water. In some places, shrimp boats must use nets with a special escape hatch, called a turtle excluder device, that lets a trapped turtle swim free. Each solution means fewer turtles are harmed.


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Name _____ Date _____

# Comparing Text Structures

**Answer the questions about the two texts on sea turtles.**

**1.** How is Text 1 organized?

chronology comparison cause and effect problem and solution

**2.** How is Text 2 organized?

chronology comparison cause and effect problem and solution

**3.** Which words in Text 1 show that its events are told in order of time?

_____

_____

**4.** How does each author's structure fit what that author wants readers to learn?

_____

_____

_____

_____

**5.** Use both texts. How might plastic harm a young loggerhead during its "lost years"?

_____

_____

_____


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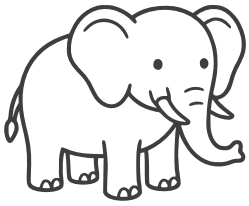
Name _____ Date _____

# Comparing Text Structures

**Read both texts about elephants. The questions are on the next page.**

Text 1

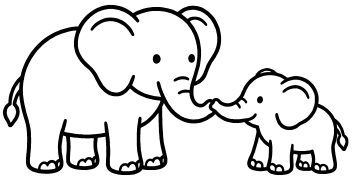
## African and Asian Elephants



Elephants live in Africa and in Asia. African and Asian elephants are alike in many ways. Both are huge plant eaters with long trunks. Both live in families led by older females. Yet they are different, too. African elephants are usually larger, and their ears are much bigger, shaped a bit like the map of Africa. Asian elephants have smaller, rounder ears. Most African elephants grow tusks, both males and females. Among Asian elephants, usually only some of the males do. Even their trunks are not the same. The tip of an African elephant's trunk has two parts like fingers for grabbing, but an Asian elephant's has just one.

Text 2

## A Day with an Elephant Family



At sunrise, an elephant family begins to move. The oldest female leads the way, and the others follow in a line, eating as they go, with the babies close to their mothers. By midmorning, the family reaches a water hole. The elephants drink, spray water over their backs and roll in the mud. When the afternoon heat is strongest, they rest in the shade of the trees, flapping their ears. As the day cools, they wander and eat again, pulling up grass and stripping leaves and bark from branches. Late at night, they sleep, but only for about two hours, usually standing up and only sometimes lying down.


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Name _____ Date _____

# Comparing Text Structures

**Answer the questions about the two texts on elephants.**

**1.** How is Text 1 organized?

chronology comparison cause and effect problem and solution

**2.** How is Text 2 organized?

chronology comparison cause and effect problem and solution

**3.** Which words in Text 1 signal that two things are being compared?

**4.** What could a reader learn from Text 2 that Text 1 does not tell?

**5.** Explain how the structures of the two texts are different.


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# Animal Partners

**Read both texts about animal partners. The questions are on the next page.**

Text 1

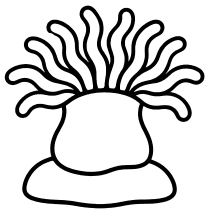
## Birds That Lead to Honey



In parts of Africa, people and a wild bird work together to find honey. The bird, the greater honeyguide, loves to eat beeswax, but it cannot break open a bees' nest by itself. The people, honey hunters such as the Yao people of Mozambique, want the honey, but bees' nests are often hidden high inside hollow trees. A hunter calls to the birds with a trilling sound, "brrr-hm." A honeyguide that hears it flies to the hunter and leads the way, calling as it goes from tree to tree. At the nest, the hunters calm the bees with smoke, chop open the tree and take the honey. Then they leave the wax for the bird. Scientists found that with the "brrr-hm" call, hunters were about three times as likely to find a nest as with other sounds.

Text 2

## Clownfish and Anemones



A sea anemone looks like a flower, but it is an animal. Its tentacles are covered with tiny stingers that stun small fish. Yet some fish live safely among those tentacles. The best known is the clownfish. A slimy coat of mucus on its skin protects it. Scientists think the coat keeps the stingers from firing. Because of this, the clownfish can hide where few hunters dare to follow. The anemone gains something, too. The clownfish chases away fish that would nibble on it, and it may drop bits of food that the anemone eats. Its waste even helps feed the anemone. When two different kinds of living things each help the other, scientists call it mutualism.


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# Animal Partners

**Answer the questions about the two texts on animal partners.**

**1.** What do the honey hunters and the honeyguide each get from working together?

**2.** What happens right after a honeyguide hears the "brrr-hm" call?

It flies to the hunter and leads the way.

It eats the wax.

The hunters calm the bees with smoke.

**3.** What evidence shows that the call helps the hunters?

**4.** How does a clownfish stay safe among the stinging tentacles?

**5.** Explain how the clownfish and the anemone each help the other.

**6.** How are the two partnerships alike? Use the word the second text gives for them.


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Name _____ Date _____

# Comparing Text Structures

**Read two texts on one topic. Compare how each one is organized.**

| | Text 1 | Text 2 |
|---|---|---|
| | _____ title | _____ title |
| **Topic** | | |
| **Structure** chronology, comparison, cause and effect, problem and solution | | |
| **Signal words** | | |
| **How the ideas are organized** | | |
| **What the structure helps me understand** | | |


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# Comparing Text Structures

**Answer the questions about the two texts on sea turtles.**

**1.** How is Text 1 organized?

chronology comparison cause and effect problem and solution

**2.** How is Text 2 organized?

chronology comparison cause and effect problem and solution

**3.** Which words in Text 1 show that its events are told in order of time?

After about two months, Then, Once, For the next several years, As, Finally

**4.** How does each author's structure fit what that author wants readers to learn?

Text 1 tells a turtle's life in order, so readers follow it from hatching to nesting. Text 2 names a problem and then solutions, so readers learn how people help.

**5.** Use both texts. How might plastic harm a young loggerhead during its "lost years"?

Young turtles drift and feed in floating seaweed, where plastic floats too, so they might swallow it or get tangled.


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# Comparing Text Structures

**Answer the questions about the two texts on elephants.**

**1.** How is Text 1 organized?

chronology **comparison** cause and effect problem and solution

**2.** How is Text 2 organized?

**chronology** comparison cause and effect problem and solution

**3.** Which words in Text 1 signal that two things are being compared?

alike, Both, Yet, different, not the same, but

**4.** What could a reader learn from Text 2 that Text 1 does not tell?

What an elephant family does through a day: walking to water, cooling off, resting and eating, and sleeping only about two hours.

**5.** Explain how the structures of the two texts are different.

Text 1 compares African and Asian elephants, point by point. Text 2 follows one family in time order, from sunrise to night.


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# Animal Partners

**Answer the questions about the two texts on animal partners.**

**1.** What do the honey hunters and the honeyguide each get from working together?

The hunters get honey, and the honeyguide gets the wax.

**2.** What happens right after a honeyguide hears the "brrr-hm" call?

It flies to the hunter and leads the way.

It eats the wax.

The hunters calm the bees with smoke.

**3.** What evidence shows that the call helps the hunters?

With the call, hunters were about three times as likely to find a nest as with other sounds.

**4.** How does a clownfish stay safe among the stinging tentacles?

A slimy coat of mucus protects it. Scientists think the mucus keeps the stingers from firing.

**5.** Explain how the clownfish and the anemone each help the other.

The anemone gives the clownfish a safe place to hide. The clownfish chases off fish that eat the anemone and helps feed it.

**6.** How are the two partnerships alike? Use the word the second text gives for them.

Both are mutualism: in each, two partners get something they could not easily get alone.


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