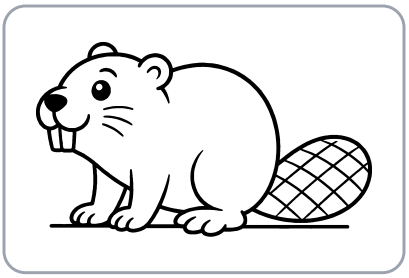
Name _____ Date _____

Text Structure

Read each section. Each one is built in a different way.

Beavers

A. A Body for the Water



A beaver is a large rodent with thick brown fur that keeps it warm and dry. Its back feet are webbed like a duck's feet, and its wide, flat tail is shaped like a paddle. Its big front teeth are orange, and they never stop growing.

B. Building a Dam

First, a beaver cuts down small trees by chewing around their trunks. Next, it drags the branches to a stream and pushes them into the mud. Then it packs the gaps with mud, stones and plants. Finally, the water backs up behind the dam and forms a pond.

C. A Pond for Many Animals

Because a beaver dam holds back water, a pond forms behind it. As a result, fish, frogs, ducks and insects have a new place to live. The pond also soaks water into the ground, so the land nearby stays green even in dry weather.

D. Beavers and Roads

Sometimes a beaver pond floods a road or a farm field. In the past, people usually trapped the beavers. Today, many people solve the problem with a pipe called a pond leveler. It runs through the dam and lets extra water flow out, so the pond stays at a safe level and the beavers can stay.

Structures:

description **sequence** **compare and contrast** **cause and effect**

problem and solution

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Name _____ Date _____

Text Structure

Use the sections about beavers. Fill in the table. Then answer the questions.

Structures:

description **sequence** **compare and contrast** **cause and effect** **problem and solution**

Section	Structure	Words that tell you
A		
B		
C		
D		

1. Explain how a beaver dam makes a home for other animals. Use section C.

2. What do many people do today when a beaver pond floods a road? Why is it better than trapping?

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Name _____ Date _____

Text Structure

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

Butterflies and Moths





Butterflies and moths are close relatives. Both are insects with four wings covered in tiny scales, and both hatch from eggs as caterpillars. Still, you can learn to tell them apart.

Most butterflies fly during the day, while most moths fly at night. A butterfly's antennae are thin, with a little knob at each tip. In contrast, a moth's antennae are often feathery or come to a point.

Watch how they rest, too. A butterfly usually folds its wings straight up over its back. A moth, on the other hand, usually rests with its wings spread flat or folded like a tent over its body.

Even their resting stage is different. A butterfly caterpillar forms a hard case called a chrysalis. Many moth caterpillars spin a soft, silky cocoon instead.

---

1. How is this text organized?

sequence compare and contrast problem and solution

2. Name two ways butterflies and moths are alike.

_____

_____

3. Which words signal that the author is telling a difference?

_____

_____

4. At night, you see an insect land on a wall with its wings spread flat. Is it more likely a butterfly or a moth? Use the text.

_____

_____

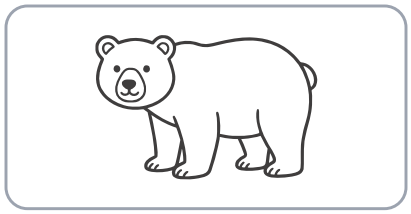
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Name _____ Date _____

Text Structure

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

Keeping Bears Out of the Trash



Black bears have a powerful sense of smell, and they are always looking for an easy meal. In towns and parks near bear country, that can cause a serious problem. A bear that smells food in a trash can may knock it over and eat what is inside.

Once a bear learns that trash means food, it keeps coming back. It may lose its fear of people, and a bear that is not afraid of people can be dangerous. Bears like this are sometimes moved far away, or even killed.

To solve the problem, many parks and towns use trash cans with latches that a bear cannot open. Campers lock their food in metal boxes. Some towns ask people to keep trash inside until the morning the truck comes.

These steps work. In Yosemite National Park, after the park put in bear-proof food lockers and taught visitors to use them, the number of times bears broke into cars and campsites dropped sharply.

---

1. How is this text organized?

description problem and solution sequence

2. What causes a bear to keep coming back to a town?

_____

3. Name two solutions the text gives.

_____

_____

4. What evidence shows that the solutions work?

_____

_____

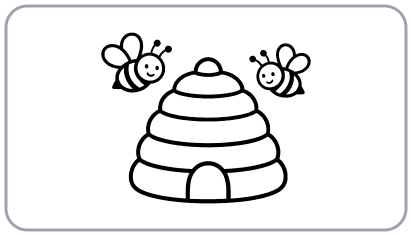
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Name _____ Date _____

Text Structure

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

How Honeybees Make Honey



Honeybees make honey from nectar, a sweet, watery liquid inside flowers. They store the honey and eat it when there are few flowers, such as in winter. Making it takes many steps and many bees.

First, a worker bee flies from flower to flower and sips nectar. She carries it home in a special part of her body called a honey stomach.

Next, back at the hive, she passes the nectar to a younger worker, mouth to mouth. The younger bee adds more substances from its own body that change the nectar. Then it places the nectar in a wax cell.

After that, the bees fan their wings over the cells. The moving air dries the nectar until most of its water is gone, and it turns into thick, sticky honey.

Finally, the bees seal each full cell with a cap of wax. The honey stays there until the colony needs it.

---

1. How is this text organized?

cause and effect sequence compare and contrast

2. Which words show the order of the steps?

_____

3. Why do the bees fan their wings over the cells?

_____

_____

4. Why do honeybees store honey?

_____

_____

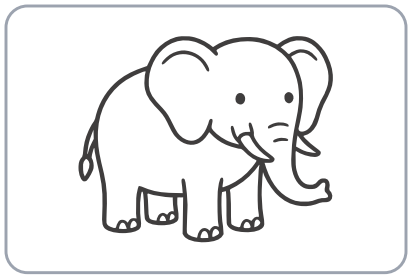
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Name _____ Date _____

Text Structure

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

Why Elephants Flap Their Ears



African elephants live in hot places, and their huge bodies hold a lot of heat. Elephants cannot cool off by sweating the way people do, so they need other ways to stay cool. Their giant ears are one of the best.

An elephant's ears are thin and full of blood vessels. When the elephant flaps its ears, air moves over them. As a result, the blood inside cools down. The cooler blood then flows back through the elephant's body. Because of this, the whole animal cools off.

Elephants cool down in other ways, too. They suck up water with their trunks and spray it over their backs. They also roll in mud. When the mud dries, it forms a coat that keeps the sun from burning their skin and helps keep biting insects away.

---

1. How is this text organized?

sequence cause and effect compare and contrast

2. What happens to the blood when an elephant flaps its ears?

_____

_____

3. Which words signal causes and effects?

_____

4. Explain how mud helps an elephant.

_____

_____

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Name _____ Date _____

Text Structure

Draw a line from each structure to what it does and its signal words.

description	•	• tells steps or events in order: first, next, then, finally
sequence	•	• tells a problem and how it is fixed: problem, solve, to fix this
compare and contrast	•	• tells why something happens: because, so, as a result
cause and effect	•	• tells how things are alike and different: both, but, unlike, in contrast
problem and solution	•	• tells what something is like: for example, such as, also

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Name _____ Date _____

Text Structure

Read a nonfiction text. Name its structure and tell how its ideas connect.

Title

Structure

Signal words I found

How the ideas connect *steps, causes and effects, or a problem and its fix*

Why I think the author chose this structure

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Text Structure

Use the sections about beavers. Fill in the table. Then answer the questions.

Structures:

description **sequence** **compare and contrast** **cause and effect** **problem and solution**

Section	Structure	Words that tell you
A	description	It tells what a beaver's body is like.
B	sequence	first, next, then, finally
C	cause and effect	because, as a result, so
D	problem and solution	floods, solve the problem, so

1. Explain how a beaver dam makes a home for other animals. Use section C.

The dam holds back water and a pond forms, so fish, frogs, ducks and insects have a place to live.

2. What do many people do today when a beaver pond floods a road? Why is it better than trapping?

They put a pond leveler through the dam. It keeps the pond at a safe level, and the beavers can stay.

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Text Structure

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

Butterflies and Moths





Butterflies and moths are close relatives. Both are insects with four wings covered in tiny scales, and both hatch from eggs as caterpillars. Still, you can learn to tell them apart.

Most butterflies fly during the day, while most moths fly at night. A butterfly's antennae are thin, with a little knob at each tip. In contrast, a moth's antennae are often feathery or come to a point.

Watch how they rest, too. A butterfly usually folds its wings straight up over its back. A moth, on the other hand, usually rests with its wings spread flat or folded like a tent over its body.

Even their resting stage is different. A butterfly caterpillar forms a hard case called a chrysalis. Many moth caterpillars spin a soft, silky cocoon instead.

---

1. How is this text organized?

sequence compare and contrast problem and solution

2. Name two ways butterflies and moths are alike.

Both are insects with four scaly wings, and both hatch from eggs as caterpillars.

3. Which words signal that the author is telling a difference?

while, in contrast, on the other hand, instead

4. At night, you see an insect land on a wall with its wings spread flat. Is it more likely a butterfly or a moth? Use the text.

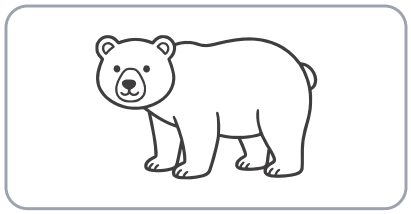
A moth, because most moths fly at night and rest with their wings spread flat.

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Text Structure

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

Keeping Bears Out of the Trash



Black bears have a powerful sense of smell, and they are always looking for an easy meal. In towns and parks near bear country, that can cause a serious problem. A bear that smells food in a trash can may knock it over and eat what is inside.

Once a bear learns that trash means food, it keeps coming back. It may lose its fear of people, and a bear that is not afraid of people can be dangerous. Bears like this are sometimes moved far away, or even killed.

To solve the problem, many parks and towns use trash cans with latches that a bear cannot open. Campers lock their food in metal boxes. Some towns ask people to keep trash inside until the morning the truck comes.

These steps work. In Yosemite National Park, after the park put in bear-proof food lockers and taught visitors to use them, the number of times bears broke into cars and campsites dropped sharply.

---

1. How is this text organized?

description problem and solution sequence

2. What causes a bear to keep coming back to a town?

It learns that trash means food.

3. Name two solutions the text gives.

Trash cans with latches a bear cannot open, and metal boxes to lock food in.

4. What evidence shows that the solutions work?

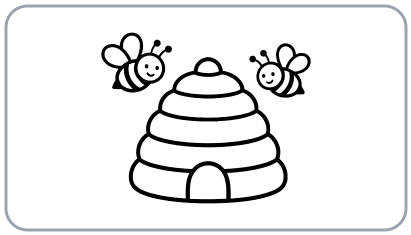
In Yosemite, bear break-ins dropped sharply after the park put in bear-proof lockers.

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Text Structure

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

How Honeybees Make Honey



Honeybees make honey from nectar, a sweet, watery liquid inside flowers. They store the honey and eat it when there are few flowers, such as in winter. Making it takes many steps and many bees.

First, a worker bee flies from flower to flower and sips nectar. She carries it home in a special part of her body called a honey stomach.

Next, back at the hive, she passes the nectar to a younger worker, mouth to mouth. The younger bee adds more substances from its own body that change the nectar. Then it places the nectar in a wax cell.

After that, the bees fan their wings over the cells. The moving air dries the nectar until most of its water is gone, and it turns into thick, sticky honey.

Finally, the bees seal each full cell with a cap of wax. The honey stays there until the colony needs it.

---

1. How is this text organized?

cause and effect (sequence) compare and contrast

2. Which words show the order of the steps?

First, Next, Then, After that, Finally

3. Why do the bees fan their wings over the cells?

The moving air dries the nectar until most of its water is gone and it turns into honey.

4. Why do honeybees store honey?

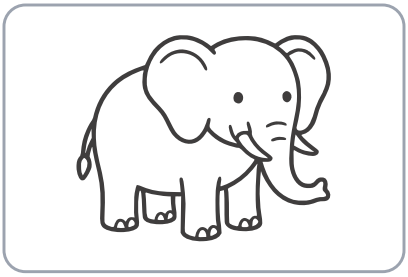
So they have food when there are few flowers, such as in winter.

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Text Structure

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

Why Elephants Flap Their Ears



African elephants live in hot places, and their huge bodies hold a lot of heat. Elephants cannot cool off by sweating the way people do, so they need other ways to stay cool. Their giant ears are one of the best.

An elephant's ears are thin and full of blood vessels. When the elephant flaps its ears, air moves over them. As a result, the blood inside cools down. The cooler blood then flows back through the elephant's body. Because of this, the whole animal cools off.

Elephants cool down in other ways, too. They suck up water with their trunks and spray it over their backs. They also roll in mud. When the mud dries, it forms a coat that keeps the sun from burning their skin and helps keep biting insects away.

---

1. How is this text organized?

sequence **cause and effect** compare and contrast

2. What happens to the blood when an elephant flaps its ears?

Air moves over the ears and cools the blood, which then cools the whole body.

3. Which words signal causes and effects?

so, as a result, because of this

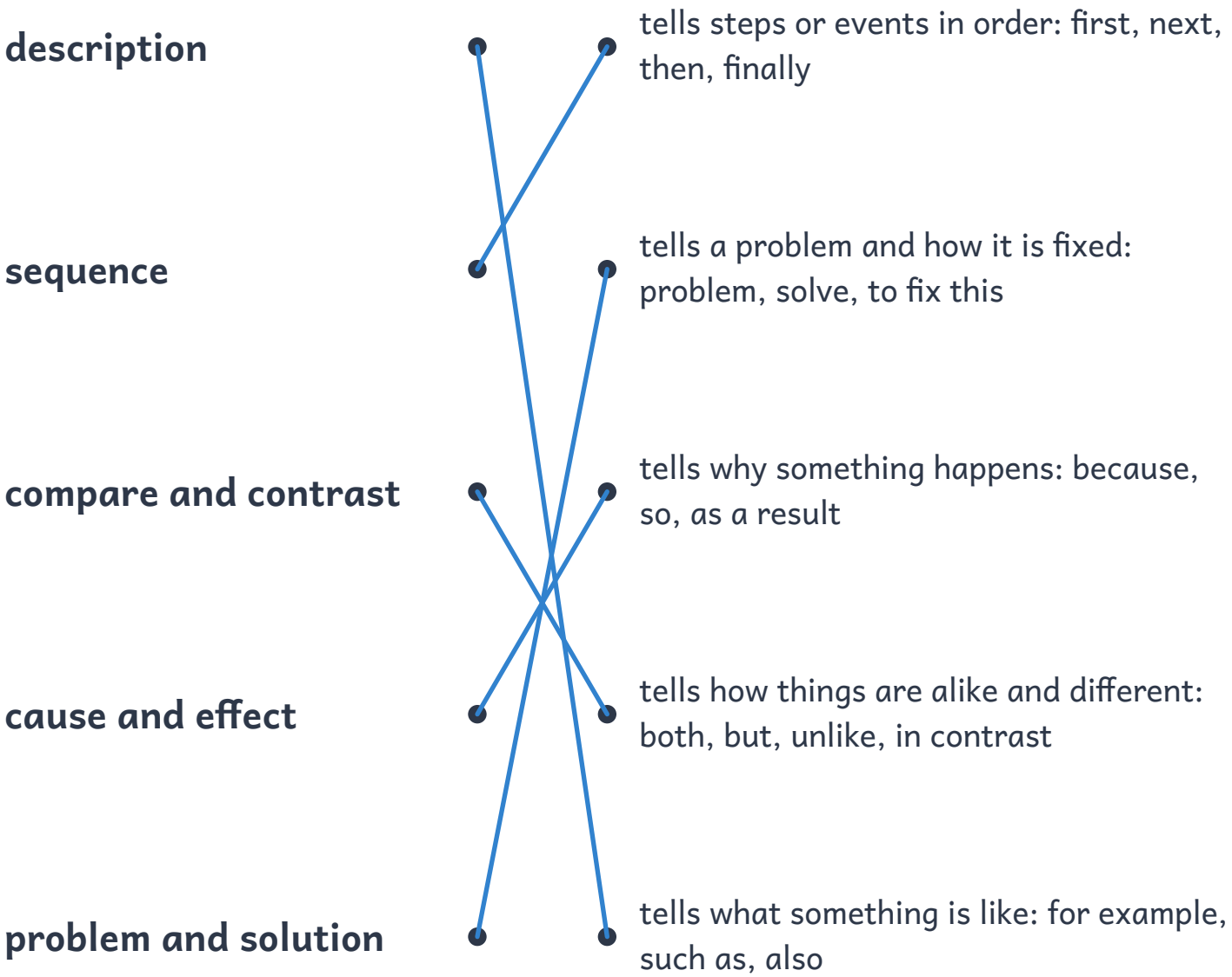
4. Explain how mud helps an elephant.

Dried mud keeps the sun from burning its skin and helps keep biting insects away.

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Text Structure

Draw a line from each structure to what it does and its signal words.



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