

**Table 1.2: Text Structures**

Structure	Definition	Examples	Signal Words
<b>Description</b>	Presents ideas through elaboration of attributes, specifics, or setting information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Newspaper article</li> </ul>	<i>attributes, characteristics, properties, qualities</i>
<b>Sequence</b>	Groups ideas based on order or time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recipe</li> <li>• History book</li> <li>• Biography</li> </ul>	<i>before, after, earlier, later, initially, finally, previous, following, recent</i>
<b>Comparison</b>	Relates ideas by highlighting similarities and differences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political speech</li> </ul>	<i>comparison, contrast, however, alternatively, similar, different, same, despite, distinction</i>
<b>Causation</b>	Presents cause and effect relationships between ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Directions</li> <li>• Explanations</li> <li>• Economics text</li> </ul>	<i>result, cause, effect, consequence, thus, reason, explanation</i>
<b>Problem and Solution</b>	Presents ideas in two parts: a problem to be solved and a solution that eliminates the problem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific article</li> <li>• Frequently asked questions document</li> </ul>	<i>problem, trouble, difficulty, issue, danger, bad, solution, answer, response, recommend, suggest, reply</i>
<b>Collection</b>	Relates ideas by simply grouping them together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To-do list</li> </ul>	<i>and, addition, besides, subsequent, furthermore, another</i>

Source: Adapted from Meyer, B. J. F., Young, C. J., & Bartlett, B. J. (1989). Memory improved: Reading and memory enhancement across the life span through strategic text structures. *Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum*; Meyer, B. J. F., & Ray, M. N. (2011). *Structure strategy interventions: Increasing reading comprehension of expository text*. *International Electronic Journal of Elementary Education*, 4(1), 127–152.