

Expository Text



Informational text: text that presents information, including expository, persuasive, and procedural text
(Glossary, Spring 2012 Update, TEA)

Expository text: a type of informational text that clarifies or explains something

Purpose: is to inform, explain, clarify, define, or instruct by providing information such as an explanation or directions

Characteristics:

- gives factual and verifiable information about a specific subject. Information presented can be checked using other sources, i.e. newspapers, encyclopedias, etc.
- uses facts about real events and people
- presents information in a clear way
- gives events in the order in which they happened
- writing organized by topics
- may use diagrams, photographs, and other illustrations

Forms:

recipe	editorial
magazine articles	textbook
newsletter	pamphlet
manual	news paper
brochure	catalog

How to Read EXPOSITORY Text

Grade 8

Expository Text Glossary

Argument - the debate of a topic using logic and persuasion

Assertion - an opinion or declaration stated with conviction

Conclusion- restates the main points and tells the reader what to understand about the ideas presented in the selection; is usually the last paragraph in the selection

Factual Claim - a stance taken and supported by facts that can be verified

Introduction- sets up the reader's interest and gives the reader clues of what the selection will be about

Main Idea- what the text says about the topic; can often be expressed in one sentence or less

Supporting Details - a specific piece of information related to the topic

Summary- a synthesis of the important ideas in a text; may be of varying length, expressed in the reader's own words

Text Features- are parts of the text that have been created to help the reader locate and understand information

Text Structure- the manner in which information is organized and presented

Topic- the subject addressed by the author; who or what the text is about

Expository Text Structures

Expository text may be organized using one or more text structures.

- **Cause and Effect** - how or why an event happened; what resulted from an event
- **Compare and Contrast** - how two or more things are alike or different
- **Sequence/ Chronological Order** - the order of events/ steps in a process
- **Descriptive/ Classification Scheme** - how something looks, moves, works, etc.; a definition or characterization
- **Proposition and Support** - why a point or idea should be supported; what's wrong with an idea
- **Problem and Solution** - what's wrong and how to fix it

Expository Text Features

Text features help the reader make sense of the information.

- **Print Features** - organizational features used to locate information about the text
- **Illustrations** - added to text to enhance the meaning of words
- **Organizational Aids** - help the reader locate important information within the text
- **Graphic Aids** - provide important information that is not specifically stated within the text