



# Text Structures Activities

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## **Description**

Descriptive texts describe the characteristics and features of an event or topic.

For example, when reading a descriptive article about the Empire State Building, the reader would most likely learn that it is 1,250 feet tall with 102 floors.



## Chronological/Sequence

Chronological order usually refers to how things happen in **order of time**.

For example, in a chronological order text about the Empire State Building, the reader would most likely discover that the building took 410 days to complete. President Herbert Hoover first turned the lights on inside on May 1, 1931.

Sequential order usually refers to steps in a **process or event**.

When reading a sequential order article about the Empire State Building, you might learn where to go to purchase a ticket, how to get to the 86th floor where the observation deck is located, and where to go to see the best views of the city on that deck.



## **Problem and Solution**

Articles with the problem/solution structure state a problem and then explain its solution.

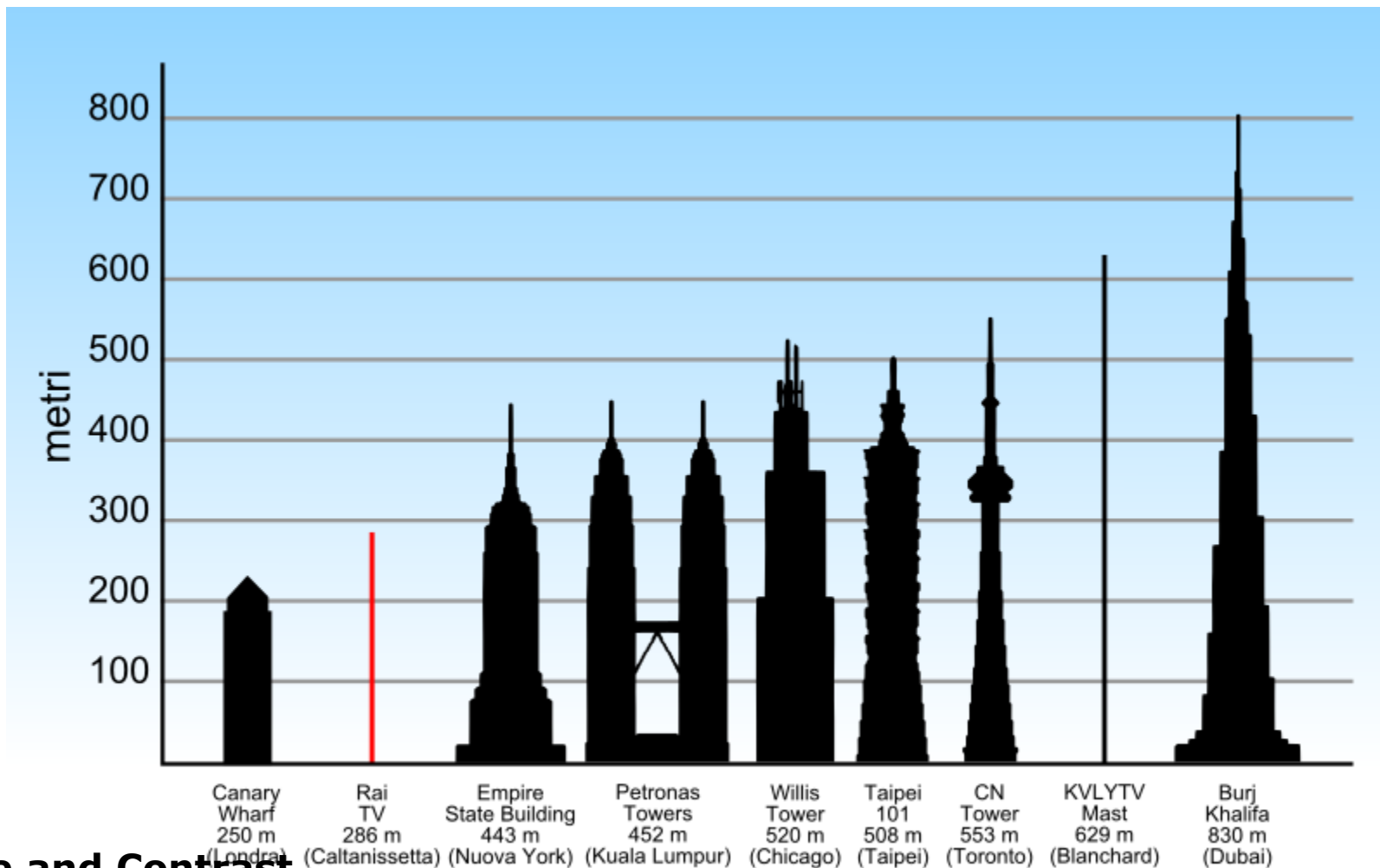
For example, the Empire State Building opened just as the United States was entering the Great Depression. The problem was solved 20 years later when companies moved into Manhattan and office space was scarce.



### **Cause and Effect**

The cause and effect structure is used to show relationships between events. Because this happened...then this happened. In contrast to this event...this took place.




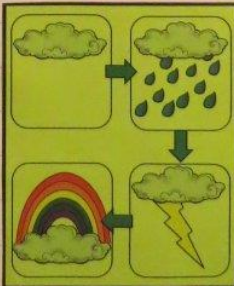
For example, the Empire State Building lights up its spire in colors to match seasonal and world events. The effect is quite a spectacle. The building turns vibrant green for St. Patrick's Day. It turned blue for the death of Frank Sinatra. When New York sports teams play home games, the building even turns the colors of the team.



## Compare and Contrast

Compare and contrast articles point out similarities and differences between two or more categories. Keywords include same, alike, in contrast, and on the other hand.

For example, The Empire State Building is often compared to other man-made structures around the world. It holds the record for the tallest skyscraper in structural height for 42 years. Today the tallest building in the world is Burj Khalifa. It uses only have the amount of steel as the Empire State Building due to its tubular structure system.

Text Structures			
Text Structure	Definition	Illustration	Clue Words
Cause and Effect	The writing is organized based on what happened and the result:  Cause ⇒ why it happens Effect ⇒ what happens		since when because if ... then ... so therefore without
Problem and Solution	The author presents a problem that must be solved.		problem solution dilemma because question answer so that
Compare and Contrast	The author looks for similarities and differences in people, places, things, or ideas.		like both also most but whereas however
Order	The author organizes the events in writing according to the order in which things happen. (time order)		first next then as while finally last

Here is what the completed anchor chart will look like. Both color and blackline illustrations are provided. Print the pieces onto colored paper, cut out the boxes, and glue them onto a standard 20 by 30-inch piece of chart paper. You'll have a ready-to-use anchor chart in just minutes. You can download the [printables](#) here.



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