## Types of Text Structures in Informational Texts

| Text Pattern                | Definitions  | Key Words  | Graphic Organizer | Example by Genre<br>Informational Text/Expository   |
|-----------------------------|--|--|-------------------|---|
| Description                 | Descriptive details about<br>characteristics, actions,<br>etc.           | Descriptive<br>adjective and words<br>like on, over,<br>beyond, within                                 |                   | The neuroscience wing at Emory University Hospital in<br>Atlanta is the epicenter of the neuromarketing world.<br>Like most medical wards, it is filled with an air of quiet,<br>antiseptic tension. On a recent visit, in the hallway<br>outside an M.R.I. room, a patient milled around in a light<br>blue paper gown. A doctor on a bench flipped through a<br>clipboard and talked in soothing tones to a man in<br>glasses, a young woman anxiously clutching his arm. |
| Problem/<br>Solution        | Sets up a problem and its solution                                       | Propose, conclude,<br>a solution, the<br>reason for, the<br>problem or question                        |                   | Marketers in the United States spent more than \$1<br>billion last year on focus groups, the results of which<br>guided about \$120 billion in advertising. But focus<br>groups are plagued by a basic flaw of human<br>psychology: people often do not know their own minds.<br>In contrast, M.R.I. scanning offers the promise of<br>concrete facts an unbiased glimpse at a consumer's<br>mind in action.  |
| Time/Order<br>Chronological | Gives information in order of occurrence                                 | First, second,<br>before, after, finally,<br>then, next, earlier                                       | ○→○→○→○           | In the series of TV commercials from the 70's and 80's<br>that pitted Coke against Pepsi in a blind taste test, Pepsi<br>was usually the winner. So why, Montague asked<br>himself not long ago, did Coke appeal so strongly to so<br>many people if it didn't taste any better?<br>Over several months this past summer, Montague set to<br>work looking for a scientifically convincing answer.   |
| Comparison/<br>Contrast     | Looking at two or more<br>items to establish<br>similarities/differences | While, yet, but,<br>rather, most, same,<br>either, as well as,<br>like, and unlike, as<br>opposed to   |                   | He assembled a group of test subjects and, while<br>monitoring their brain activity with an M.R.I. machine,<br>recreated the Pepsi Challenge. His results confirmed<br>those of the TV campaign: Pepsi tended to produce a<br>stronger response than Coke in the brain's ventral<br>putamen, a region thought to process feelings of reward.  |
| Cause/Effect                | Give reason/explanation<br>for happening                                 | Because, since,<br>if/then, due to, as a<br>result, for this<br>reason, on account<br>of, consequently |                   | So Montague repeated the experiment with a small<br>variation: this time, he announced which of the sample<br>tastes were Coke. The outcome was remarkable: almost<br>all the subjects said they preferred Coke. Apparently, the<br>subjects were meditating in a more sophisticated way on<br>the taste of Coke, allowing memories and other<br>impressions of the drink in a word, its brand to<br>shape their preference.  |