Types of Text Structures in Informational Texts

Text Structure	Definitions	Critical Words	Graphic Organizer	High School Examples of Texts
Description	Descriptive details about characteristics, actions, etc.	Descriptive adjective and words like: on, over, beyond, within		Representative democracy involves leaders receiving votes from the populace after a period of campaigning for that office. Competition between candidates, coupled with free and open speech, is necessary for this system of government to be successful.
Problem/Solution	Sets up a problem and its solution	Propose, conclude, a solution, the reason for, the problem or question		The type of government created after the American Revolution included the ideals of protecting individual liberties while at the same time preserving the collective order of society. To that end, a government based on combining popular consent, separation of powers, and federalism was created.
Time/Order Chronological	Gives information in order of occurrence	First, second, before, after, finally, then, next, earlier	O → O→O	A proposed bill first goes to a committee to be reviewed. The second step in the process is for the House or Senate to debate the bill, making necessary revisions. The last step in the process of a bill becoming law is after both houses of Congress pass the bill, it goes to the President to be signed into law.
Comparison/ Contrast	Looking at two or more items to establish similarities/differences	While, yet, but, rather, most, same, either, as well as, like, and unlike, as opposed to		Some customers like the conveniences offered by big banks including, computerized banking, multiple branches, and a large network of ATM machines. Other customers prefer small banks that often times offer more personalized service and are better connected to their communities.
Cause/Effect	Give reason/explanation for happening	Because, since, if/then, due to, as a result, for this reason, on account of, consequently		As a result of the Great Depression, almost half of all the elderly in the United States lost their savings and thus their ability to support themselves when they were ready to retire. As a result, Congress passed the Social Security Act of 1935 to help mitigate the disastrous impact of the Great Depression on the elderly.