

How Text Works

Students listen for how a text is organized and why the author chose that organization.

1.10.B “discuss how the use of text structure contributes to the author's purpose;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

Teacher: this page is run aloud. The script and answers are on the guide page.

1 TEXT PLAN _____

a	steps	facts	order
b	order	facts	steps

2 AUTHOR REASON _____

a	inform	teach	entertain
b	entertain	inform	teach

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Read each mini-text aloud twice, then give partners a few seconds to talk before students mark an answer. Students listen for steps, facts, or events in order, and discuss how that organization helps the author teach, inform, or entertain.

Students never read directions on this sheet. Read each part's script aloud, then each prompt, giving think time before students mark.

PART 1 • TEXT PLAN

SAY “Listen to each little text. Talk about whether it has steps, facts, or events in order, then circle the word that names its text plan.”

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Listen: “First, put soil in a cup. Next, add a seed. Last, give it water.” Is this text made of steps, facts, or events in order? Circle one word.	steps
b	Listen: “Frogs have strong back legs. Some frogs are green. Some frogs are brown.” Is this text made of steps, facts, or events in order? Circle one word.	facts

PART 2 • AUTHOR REASON

SAY “Listen to each text and think about the author’s reason for using this text plan. Talk with your partner about how the plan helps, then circle one word.”

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Listen: “First, wash the apple. Next, an adult cuts the apple. Last, put the pieces on a plate.” How do the steps help the author teach, inform, or entertain? Circle one word.	teach
b	Listen: “First, a puppy splashed in a puddle. Next, it shook water on Dad. Last, Dad laughed.” How do the events in order help the author entertain, inform, or teach? Circle one word.	entertain

WHAT TO ACCEPT

Part 1 answers are steps, then facts. Part 2 answers are teach, then entertain. Accept oral explanations such as, “Steps help us know what to do,” and, “Order helps us follow the story.”