

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Exploring Text Structures

"Text structure" is the term for how an author organizes information. Authors use different text structures to achieve different purposes, and one piece of writing often has multiple text structures.

**Directions:** Common text structures are listed in the boxes on the right. Use the information in these boxes to help you answer the questions below about the text structures in "Escape From Slavery."

1. The author uses **description** in the introduction of "Escape From Slavery." What is the author describing?

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**Description or List**  
Includes details to help you picture or get to know a person, a place, a thing, or an idea

**Cause and Effect**  
Explains *why* something happened (cause) and *what* happened as a result (effect)

2. A. Underline the text structure the author uses in the section "Slavery in America."

**problem and solution**                      **sequence of events**

B. Explain how you know, using evidence from the text.

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**Problem and Solution**  
Presents a problem and explains how it is solved

**Compare and Contrast**  
Presents the similarities and/or differences between two items, such as a pair of events, time periods, ideas, or places

**Sequence of Events**  
Describes events in the order in which they happen (also called chronological order)

3. In the section "Getting Bold," the author uses a cause-and-effect structure to explain the events that caused Tubman to decide to flee to the North. Write two causes below.

**Effect:** Tubman decides to run away to the North.

**Cause 1:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Cause 2:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. A. Which text structure does the author primarily use in the section "Underground Railroad"?

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B. Explain how you know, using evidence from the text.

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