

Name _____

Describe Text Structure

Practice

Read the passages below. Describe the text structure the writer uses in each passage. Identify any signal words that help you determine the structure. Write your answers on the lines and then print these pages.

Beep Baseball is a lot like baseball. They both use a ball and bases, and both have two teams. The players use a bat to hit the ball.

Unlike players on baseball teams, the players on Beep Baseball teams are sighted and non-sighted people. The sport is played with a big ball and a big bat. There are only two bases, which look like soft towers.

When a batter hits a ball, one of the bases begins to beep loudly. The batter runs toward the sound. If the batter can reach the base before someone throws a ball to the base, his or her team scores a point.

Text Structure:

Signal words:

Part 2 READING: INFORMATIONAL TEXT

2.2 Craft and Structure

Name _____

The Plains Indians lived in North America before the Europeans came. Since they had no horses, the Plains Indians traveled on foot. To hunt buffalo, they would surround a herd and shoot the buffalo with bows and arrows.

This changed when Spanish explorers came to North America and brought horses with them. Now the Plains Indians hunters were able to ride horses and follow buffalo over long distances. They carried tipis with them and set up camps. The hunters could kill buffalo and pull them back to camp using their horses.

Later, guns again changed the way that Plains Indians hunted.

Text Structure:

Signal words:

Part 2 READING: INFORMATIONAL TEXT

2.2 Craft and Structure

Name _____

Cumberland Gap National Park is under attack! A plant called kudzu threatens the park’s ecosystem. Few animals eat kudzu, and it grows so fast it’s been called “the vine that ate the South.” It can grow a foot a night! It grows even after it has been dosed with herbicide, or plant killer. That’s bad news for native plants and trees. Kudzu grows right over them. It takes the sunlight plants need to live. Bits of kudzu came to Cumberland stuck to truck tires. The trucks were there to build a road. Now park rangers cut kudzu back. They apply herbicide to the plant’s huge root. They could bring in goats because goats eat kudzu. But goats also eat native plants. Solving the kudzu problem will be tricky.

Text Structure:

Signal words:

Part 2 READING: INFORMATIONAL TEXT

2.2 Craft and Structure

Name _____

The Hoover Dam brought the Colorado River under control. Because the dam created a reserve of water, the water was used to irrigate dry farmland. It was also used as a water supply by nearby cities and towns.

But the biggest benefit of Hoover Dam is its hydroelectric power. The Hoover Dam makes a huge amount of electricity. As a result, 1.3 million people in California, Nevada, and Arizona have power every year.

As an energy source, the Hoover Dam is clean and cheap to run. It does not pollute the air the way fossil fuels would. However, this huge dam has had some bad effects on the environment. The river can no longer carry rich soil to the lands it flooded. Fish and other wildlife have lost their homes. For this reason, the landscape of the area will never be the same.

But the Hoover Dam is here to stay. It is a modern wonder of the United States.

Text Structure:

Signal words:
