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Any piece of writing falls under the category of fiction or non-fiction. Fiction is a work of imagination (made up story), whereas non-fiction is based on facts and actual events or real people. Informational texts are non-fiction works that inform the readers about a specific topic. Informational texts are found in newspapers, magazines, instruction manuals, science and history books, etc. Organization of Informational Texts Some of the cues like table of contents, index and glossary, etc., help the readers to find specific information. Table of contents at the beginning of a book lists the chapters with page numbers. This helps the readers to look for specific topics. Index which is present at the back of a book lists various topics with page numbers so that one can locate that topic. Glossary gives the meaning and definitions of words. Written Cues These texts use different types and sizes of fonts to emphasize keywords. Some words are written in bold or italics to show that they are important. Bullets and numbers are used to organize information in lists. Headings, subheadings and labels are used to categorize information. Headings may have larger fonts so that the reader can locate a particular portion in the text. Informational Images Informational images like bold and italic letters, bold and italic letters, bold and italic letters are used to draw attention to important facts, charts, tables, maps, etc., which provide details in the form of pictures. Most of the pictures have captions that connect them with the text. For example, Science books have diagrams of body parts or plant parts. Charts and graphs are found in maths books etc. Informational Text Features Informational texts contain special text features which help the readers to find important information and understand the topic. These are components of the article that are not in the main body of the text. The Text Features in Informational Texts are: Titles: Titles appear at the top of the page or front of a book. They tell us what the book or the chapter is about. Subtitles: Subtitles give us more information about the title. Headings: Headings help to organize information into sections. Subheadings: Subheadings are used to organize information into smaller sections. Table of contents: Mostly non-fiction books have a table of contents in the beginning. It helps us to identify in which page each chapter begins. Index: An index is the very last page of a book. There we can find out the page number of important keywords or information. In an index, words are listed in alphabetical order. Glossary: It is a mini dictionary found at the end of the book. It gives us the definitions of keywords. Sometimes bold and italic words are used in the glossary. Charts, graphs and tables: These are used in non-fiction books to share information. They help to organize data so that it becomes easy for the readers to read. Graphs help to organize and compare information in a visual way. Tables organize facts in a visual way which makes it easier for the readers. Captions: Captions are present underneath photographs and illustrations. They give us more information about the picture. Diagrams: These are simple drawings that show the parts of something or its working. Diagrams have labels which name each part. Labels: These are words used to describe parts of a picture. Maps: Maps are used in some non-fiction materials to show the location of a place. Timelines: Timelines are used to show the order in which certain events happened. These are usually found in historical events. Photographs: These are taken using a camera. They show what something looks like. Illustrations: Illustrations are drawn by an artist and they show something that is not real. Illustrations are used to draw attention to important facts. Words are written in dark and heavy lines to make them bold. Bold letters are slanted. Types of Informational Text Structures The text structure denotes the way each text is written. The Different Types of Informational Texts based on their Structure are: 1. Descriptive or Definition: Such texts explain a topic. The main concept is defined first and then expanded with examples. The signal words used are referred to, defined as, for instance, to illustrate etc. For example: Science textbooks, news articles, information sheet about products for sale 2. Problem - Solution This type of text states a problem and suggests one or more solutions. The signal words used are the problem is, the solution is, the problem is solved by etc. For example: A speech with a remedy for a particular problem 3. Sequence/ Time In this structure, information about a topic is given in a particular order. If the order is changed the meaning would change. The signal words used are first, second, third, then, before etc. For example: Recipes, instruction manuals 4. Comparison - Contrast This text structure involves pointing out the similarities and differences between two or more topics or objects. The signal words used are same as, different from, alike, similarly etc. For example: Articles comparing two sports teams 5. Cause - Effect This kind of text shows the relationship between the cause of something and the effect of the result. The signal words used are so that, because of, reasons for, if...then etc. For example: Warning labels which state the side effects of using a product. Activity B: SQ3R SQ3R stands for Survey! Question! Read! Recite! Review! and is a reading strategy developed by Robinson (1970). This strategy can be used across texts, but can be particularly effective for informational texts so that students can preview the text features to form hypotheses about the information they are about to read. The five parts of SQ3R are as follows: Survey (before class) - Survey the chapter/text to get a sense of how the information is organized. During this time, students should get a general idea of what the text is about, what kind of information the author gives, and how many sub-topics there are. Questioning (before class) - While reading, ask questions about the following words, what, when, why, how, etc. Read (after class) - Read the text and write an answer to the question posed in the question guide (after class) - Recite the answer, and put it into your own words Review (before next class) - Cover the answers, and ask yourself the questions to review important information. SQ3R in Action For students as a passage of text, and explain that they will be using the SQ3R strategy to preview and read the text. In this case, refer back to the shark text in Activity A. Identify each step of the process (Survey! Question! Read! Recite! Review), model for students, and have students complete the activity. Teacher: "Today, we will be using the SQ3R strategy to read and understand our text. During this process, you will..." (explain 5 steps). Survey- "Watch as I model this strategy. First is S, Survey. I will survey the text to get a sense of how the content is organized. I see that there are lots of pictures and captions under the pictures. There are parts of text at the top and on the side. It looks like the text is broken down into smaller chunks by the headings. The main topic is sharks, but I can see that there are subtopics like fastest shark, largest fish, shark with the largest teeth, and so on. I see that the author is using the informational text structure of description because he is describing different types of sharks. He must be writing to inform the reader about the different species of sharks and what makes the sharks special." Question - "Now on to Q, Question. I'm going to practice turning each boldfaced heading into a question using one of the 5 W words. Let's try the heading Fastest Shark. My question is "What is the fastest shark?" (Teacher continues with all headings.) Read- "Now, R. Read. I will read the text and answer my questions." (Teacher reads aloud.) "My question for this section was "What is the fastest shark?" My answer is: "The fastest shark is the Shortfin Mako, which can swim over 35 mph!" (Teacher continues to answer questions.) Recite- "Now, R. Recite. I will try to put my question and answer into my own words. One of the fastest sharks in the world is called the Shortfin Mako. This shark can swim almost 35 mph!" (Teacher demonstrates with other sections.) Review- "Finally, we have R, Review. I will cover my answers and see if I can answer the questions myself." What is the fastest shark? I will write that in my Main Idea box. Now, I want to find two supporting details that answer this question. Ok. I see one here: The Shortfin Mako is the fastest shark, so I'll write that down. I also see that it can swim up to 35 mph, so I'll write that down as well. Let's check: do these two supporting details answer my Main Idea question? (Reads details.) "Yes." Note: Activity C is one example of a graphic organizer that supports understanding of text structures. You can find more examples of graphic organizers that support text structure on the Summarizing and Synthesizing page. Robinson, Francis, Pleasant. (1970). Effective study. New York: Harper & Row. Seminar on Literature for Youth. (2016). Sharks. Retrieved August 25 from . In order to continue enjoying our site, we ask that you confirm your identity as a human. Thank you very much for your cooperation. Text features refer to the organizational and structural elements of a text that generally help with navigating and meaning-making. There are common text features that span most fiction and non-fiction genres, like the title, subheading, table of contents, captions and images. Then, there are additional text features of each genre. For example, Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets, which depicts Harry and Ron in a flying car. Harry's scraggy hair, round glasses, and lightning-bolt scar are visible. This image gives a lot of context: the lighting scar being important to the storyline, and the flying car demonstrating that magic will be in the book. Cover images are common in both fiction and non-fiction texts, with actual photographs more likely on non-fiction text. Prompts for Learners: What can you guess the book is about based on the cover image? Why do you think they chose a drawing/photo and not the other way around? After reading the book, can you come up with an alternative scene for the cover image? Often, when you open a book, you will not find the text immediately. Instead, you will come across a table of contents. This is here to help you navigate the text in a non-linear fashion. Tables of contents are found in both fiction and non-fiction texts. For non-fiction texts, they serve a greater purpose, because non-fiction texts are often designed to be read in a non-linear fashion. A classic example is an encyclopedia, where you don't read it cover-to-cover. Rather, you browse the table of contents (or index, discussed later) to find what you want to read, then only read that section. Prompts for Learners: What is the purpose of a table of contents? How can using a table of contents save you time? Which types of texts are tables of contents most useful for? Longer texts, such as novels, tend to have chapters. These are 'sections' of a book that each have a coherent theme or reason that they are clustered together. In non-fiction texts, it's usually because each chapter addresses a particular idea or topic. In fiction texts, it might represent a certain segment of the storyline. Non-fiction texts will often strategically end a chapter on a cliffhanger or a similar compelling point in the storyline, designed to keep you reading the next chapter, then the next one, then the next one. We'll often call books that do this well 'page turners'. Like a book title, a chapter title might have a compelling name that tries to draw you into the chapter or give you context about what it's about. Or, it might just be "Chapter 1". Prompts for Learners: Why do non-fiction books have chapters? Why do fiction books have chapters? Subheadings are found throughout a text and function to divide a text into sections. They provide a brief summary of the content of each section, allowing readers to scan and locate relevant information quickly. Generally, subheadings are more common in non-fiction than fiction texts. They might be used in texts such as academic articles, textbooks, business reports, blog posts, and how-to guides. In these sorts of texts, they allow us to skip a section and scan through to the sub-sections that contain the information we are seeking. Prompts for Learners: How can readers use subheadings to navigate a text? What sorts of texts are subheadings most common in? Bold print is a stylistic choice in which the text is darkened to stand out from the surrounding text. It is used to emphasize certain words or phrases that the author might want you to focus on. In other words, bold print highlights the most important information for the reader. It makes it easier for the reader to spot key points. Most commonly, bold print will be used in instructional texts (e.g. manuals and guides). It's also common in textbooks to emphasize key terms or concepts which might be returned to later in a glossary. Similarly, in my own blog posts, I use bold print to stress main points. Prompts for Learners: What words or phrases are in bold print, and why do you think the author chose to highlight them? How does the use of bold print help you understand the text better? If you were to revise this text, what other words or phrases would you put in bold print? Italics is a text style where the letters lean slightly to the right. It's used to emphasize a point, such as if a character yells something! Italic text could also denote titles of works in some referencing style, or indicate foreign or latin words. Italics provide a visual hint that the text holds special significance, whether it be for emphasis or following a referencing style or other stylistic guidelines. Italics are widely used in non-fiction writing. They're common in newspapers and blog posts, where they may be used for emphasis. They can also be found in academic articles, where they often signify the titles of books or journals. In fiction texts like novels, where they might denote a character's thoughts. Prompts for Learners: What words or phrases are in italics, and why do you think the author chose to italicize them? How does the use of italics change your understanding or reading of the text? If you were to revise this text, what other words or phrases would you put in italics? Bullet points and numbered lists make it easier for a reader to scan through items, instructions, or other ordered and structured data. It is used to organize information in a clear, concise format. As a result, they can provide a better reader experience when presenting complex or difficult text. Bullet points and numbered lists are common in instructional texts where a list of steps or procedures may be required. They're also prevalent in business reports for listing data or key points. You might also see them at the beginning of a text or blog post to summarize the upcoming information. Prompts for Learners: What information is presented in bullet points or numbered lists in this text? How do bullet points or numbered lists help you understand the information better? If you were to revise this text, what other information would you put in bullet points or numbered lists? Tables are a structured way to present data and complex information, whether numerical or textual. By aligning data in columns and rows, we can scan, compare and contrast, and order the data easily. It can be a lot faster to present and receive this complex information than if it were presented in textual format. In other words, tabulated data provides a clear, efficient method of receiving data. You'll often find tables in academic articles, where they may be used to present research data. They're also common in textbooks to summarize and compare information, in business reports to present financial data, and in technical manuals to list specifications. Prompts for Learners: What information is presented in the table in this text? How does the table help you understand the information better? If you were to revise this text, what other information would you present in a table? Text FeatureDescriptionCommon Text TypesGraphs/ChartsVisual representations of data. They help to illustrate and explain datasets in a fast and consumable way. Great for demonstrating relationships between data.Academic work, scientific papers, business reports, textbooks, news articles.Images/PicturesUsed to supplement textual information, bring descriptive writing to life, sustain user attention, support storytelling, and (for images) add veracity to claims.Textbooks, children's books, cookbooks.CaptionsBrief descriptions typically used with images or graphs to provide context or explain what is being shown.Photography, news articles, research papers, social media.FootnotesNotes at the foot of the page used to cite sources or to provide additional information about something mentioned in the main text.Academic papers, research reports, books.HyperlinksText or images that provide a link to another page or a different section of the same page. Often underlined and colored differently.Web pages, digital documents.e-books.Pull QuotesA brief, attention-grabbing quotation, typically in a larger or distinctive typeface, taken from the main text.Magazines, newspapers, blog articles.GlossaryAn alphabetical list of terms with their definitions, usually placed at the end of a book.Textbooks, technical manuals, academic books.IndexAn alphabetical list of names, subjects, etc. with reference to the pages on which they are mentioned.Books, reports, technical manuals.Bibliography/ReferencesA list of the books, articles, websites, etc., used or referred to by the author.Academic papers, research reports, books.InfographicsVisual representations of information, data, or knowledge intended to present complex information quickly and clearly.Websites, magazines, business reports.MapsVisual representations of an area of land or sea showing physical features.Travel books, geography textbooks, research reports.SidebarsA short article or information that is adjacent to and complements the main text.Magazines, academic papers, textbooks.TextboxesBoxes containing additional or highlight information, separate from the main text.Textbooks, presentations, digital documents.Cover PagesThe first page of a document, often containing the title, author, and publication date.Books, academic papers, business reports.ProloguesA separate introductory section in a book that provides background information, often before the start of the main story.Novels, plays, literary works.EpiloguesA section or speech at the end of a book or play that serves as a comment on, or a conclusion to, what has happened.Novels, plays, literary works.TitlesThe name of a book, composition, or other artistic work.Books, songs, films, movies.SubtitlesSecondary titles that provide more information about the content. Also, the transcriptions of dialog in films or video.Books, academic papers, films.Cover ImageThe image presented on the cover of a book or magazine.Books, magazines, albums.Table of ContentsA list of titles or chapters and the page numbers where they start, usually located at the beginning of a book.Books, reports, manuals.Chapter TitlesThe titles given to specific sections of a book to divide the content into manageable parts.Novels, textbooks, guidebooks.SubheadingsTitles for sections within a chapter or article, helping to break up and organize content.Articles, textbooks, reports.Bold PrintText that has been made thicker to stand out, often used for emphasis.Books, articles, websites.ItalicText that is slightly tilted to the right, often used for emphasis, titles, or foreign words.Books, articles, research papers.Bullet Points/Numbered ListsA list format that breaks information into easy-to-read, discrete parts.Presentations, textbooks, articles.TablesA structured set of data made up of rows and columns, used to organize information.Textbooks, scientific papers, business reports.FootnotesNotes at the foot of the page used to cite sources or to provide additional information about something mentioned in the main text.Academic papers, research reports, books. There are countless text features, and I needed to stop somewhere - so I stopped at 27. A great strategy you can use when teaching about text features is to simply give students a range of different texts (e.g. a textbook, a novel, and an academic paper) and ask them to identify, describe, and even reproduce each text type they can find within the text. Text features refer to the organizational and structural elements of a text that generally help with navigating and meaning-making. There are common text features that span most fiction and non-fiction genres, like the title, subheading, table of contents, captions and images. Then, there are additional text features of specific genre-texts, such as hyperlinks within digital texts and in-text citations in academic texts. Below are a range of text features, their description, and the value they provide in organizing written texts. Full List of Text Features The title is the heading at the top of a text, often written in larger or bolder type. It serves to introduce and briefly summarize the topic or theme of the document. The title gives an initial impression of the content, and helps the reader to identify the text. Subheadings are found throughout a text and function to divide a text into sections. They provide a brief summary of the content of each section, allowing readers to scan and locate relevant information quickly. Generally, subheadings are more common in non-fiction than fiction texts. They might be used in texts such as academic articles, textbooks, business reports, blog posts, and how-to guides. In these sorts of texts, they allow us to skip a section and scan through to the sub-sections that contain the information we are seeking. Prompts for Learners: How can readers use subheadings to navigate a text? What sorts of texts are subheadings most common in? 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It's used to emphasize a point, such as if a character yells something! Italic text could also denote titles of works in some referencing style, or indicate foreign or latin words. Italics provide a visual hint that the text holds special significance, whether it be for emphasis or following a referencing style or other stylistic guidelines. Italics are widely used in non-fiction writing. They're common in newspapers and blog posts, where they may be used for emphasis. They can also be found in academic articles, where they often signify the titles of books or journals. In fiction texts like novels, where they might denote a character's thoughts. Prompts for Learners: What words or phrases are in italics, and why do you think the author chose to italicize them? How does the use of italics change your understanding or reading of the text? If you were to revise this text, what other words or phrases would you put in italics? 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By aligning data in columns and rows, we can scan, compare and contrast, and order the data easily. It can be a lot faster to present and receive this complex information than if it were presented in textual format. In other words, tabulated data provides a clear, efficient method of receiving data. You'll often find tables in academic articles, where they may be used to present research data. They're also common in textbooks to summarize and compare information, in business reports to present financial data, and in technical manuals to list specifications. Prompts for Learners: What information is presented in the table in this text? How does the table help you understand the information better? If you were to revise this text, what other information would you present in a table? Text FeatureDescriptionCommon Text TypesGraphs/ChartsVisual representations of data. They help to illustrate and explain datasets in a fast and consumable way. Great for demonstrating relationships between data.Academic work, scientific papers, business reports, textbooks, news articles.Images/PicturesUsed to supplement textual information, bring descriptive writing to life, sustain user attention, support storytelling, and (for images) add veracity to claims.Textbooks, children's books, cookbooks.CaptionsBrief descriptions typically used with images or graphs to provide context or explain what is being shown.Photography, news articles, research papers, social media.FootnotesNotes at the foot of the page used to cite sources or to provide additional information about something mentioned in the main text.Academic papers, research reports, books.HyperlinksText or images that provide a link to another page or a different section of the same page. Often underlined and colored differently.Web pages, digital documents.e-books.Pull QuotesA brief, attention-grabbing quotation, typically in a larger or distinctive typeface, taken from the main text.Magazines, newspapers, blog articles.GlossaryAn alphabetical list of terms with their definitions, usually placed at the end of a book.Textbooks, technical manuals, academic books.IndexAn alphabetical list of names, subjects, etc. with reference to the pages on which they are mentioned.Books, reports, technical manuals.Bibliography/ReferencesA list of the books, articles, websites, etc., used or referred to by the author.Academic papers, research reports, books.InfographicsVisual representations of information, data, or knowledge intended to present complex information quickly and clearly.Websites, magazines, business reports.MapsVisual representations of an area of land or sea showing physical features.Travel books, geography textbooks, research reports.SidebarsA short article or information that is adjacent to and complements the main text.Magazines, academic papers, textbooks.TextboxesBoxes containing additional or highlight information, separate from the main text.Textbooks, presentations, digital documents.Cover PagesThe first page of a document, often containing the title, author, and publication date.Books, academic papers, business reports.ProloguesA separate introductory section in a book that provides background information, often before the start of the main story.Novels, plays, literary works.EpiloguesA section or speech at the end of a book or play that serves as a comment on, or a conclusion to, what has happened.Novels, plays, literary works.TitlesThe name of a book, composition, or other artistic work.Books, songs, films, movies.SubtitlesSecondary titles that provide more information about the content. Also, the transcriptions of dialog in films or video.Books, academic papers, films.Cover ImageThe image presented on the cover of a book or magazine.Books, magazines, albums.Table of ContentsA list of titles or chapters and the page numbers where they start, usually located at the beginning of a book.Books, reports, manuals.Chapter TitlesThe titles given to specific sections of a book to divide the content into manageable parts.Novels, textbooks, guidebooks.SubheadingsTitles for sections within a chapter or article, helping to break up and organize content.Articles, textbooks, reports.Bold PrintText that has been made thicker to stand out, often used for emphasis.Titles, titles, or foreign words.Books, articles, research papers.Bullet Points/Numbered ListsA list format that breaks information into easy-to-read, discrete parts.Presentations, textbooks, articles.TablesA structured set of data made up of rows and columns, used to organize information.Textbooks, scientific papers, business reports.FootnotesNotes at the foot of the page used to cite sources or to provide additional information about something mentioned in the main text.Academic papers, research reports, books. There are countless text features, and I needed to stop somewhere - so I stopped at 27. A great strategy you can use when teaching about text features is to simply give students a range of different texts (e.g. a textbook, a novel, and an academic paper) and ask them to identify, describe, and even reproduce each text type they can find within the text. Nonfiction often includes text features, aspects of a text that help make a text more accessible. Authors use these additions, like sidebars and charts, to help readers focus on important parts of a text and to organize the information. When readers know what text features are and how to use them, they'll learn more from nonfiction text. While text features should make reading easier, students do need instruction in how to use them, plus lots of practice. Here's our guide to text features, including how to help your students navigate nonfiction like experts. Text features are parts of a text that aren't in the main story or body of text. They're most common in nonfiction and help readers find information quickly and get more out of the text they're reading. For example, a photo caption helps students understand more about what's happening in the picture, so they understand that the photo is not of just some old guy on a boat, but of George Washington crossing the Delaware River, for example. Text features also help students efficiently navigate a text. A table of contents or a glossary allows them to get to the section they want without having to skim the entire text. Learn more about text features and how to help students use them in our guide to nonfiction text features. Text features are parts of a text that aren't in the main story or body of text. They're most common in nonfiction and help readers find information quickly and get more out of the text they're reading. 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bold print to stress main points. Prompts for Learners: What words or phrases are in bold print, and why do you think the author chose to highlight them? How does the use of bold print help you understand the text better? If you were to revise this text, what other words or phrases would you put in bold print? Italics is a text style where the letters lean slightly to the right. It's used to emphasize a point, such as if a character yells something! Italic text could also denote titles of works in some referencing style, or indicate foreign or latin words. Italics provide a visual hint that the text holds special significance, whether it be for emphasis or following a referencing style or other stylistic guidelines. Italics are widely used in non-fiction writing. They're common in newspapers and blog posts, where they may be used for emphasis. They can also be found in academic articles, where they often signify the titles of books or journals. In fiction texts like novels, where they might denote a character's thoughts. Prompts for Learners: What words or phrases are in italics, and why do you think the author chose to italicize them? How does the use of italics change your understanding or reading of the text? If you were to revise this text, what other words or phrases would you put in italics? Bullet points and numbered lists make it easier for a reader to scan through items, instructions, or other ordered and structured data. It is used to organize information in a clear, concise format. These formats provide a straightforward way to digest and comprehend information. As a result, they can provide a better reader experience when presenting complex or difficult text. Bullet points and numbered lists are common in instructional texts where a list of steps or procedures may be required. They're also prevalent in business reports for listing data or key points. You might also see them at the beginning of a text or blog post to summarize the upcoming information. Prompts for Learners: What information is presented in bullet points or numbered lists in this text? How do bullet points or numbered lists help you understand the information better? If you were to revise this text, what other information would you put in bullet points or numbered lists? Tables are a structured way to present data and complex information, whether numerical or textual. By aligning data in columns and rows, we can scan, compare and contrast, and order the data easily. It can be a lot faster to present and receive this complex information than if it were presented in textual format. In other words, tabulated data provides a clear, efficient method of receiving data. You'll often find tables in academic articles, where they may be used to present research data. They're also common in textbooks to summarize and compare information, in business reports to present financial data, and in technical manuals to list specifications. Prompts for Learners: What information is presented in the table in this text? How does the table help you understand the information better? If you were to revise this text, what other information would you present in a table? Text FeatureDescriptionCommon Text TypesGraphs/ChartsVisual representations of data. They help to illustrate and explain datasets in a fast and consumable way. Great for demonstrating relationships between data.Academic work, scientific papers, business reports, textbooks, news articles.Images/PicturesUsed to supplement textual information, bring descriptive writing to life, sustain user attention, support storytelling, and (for images) add veracity to claims.Textbooks, children's books, cookbooks.CaptionsBrief descriptions typically used with images or graphs to provide context or explain what is being shown.Photography, news articles, research papers, social media.FootnotesNotes at the foot of the page used to cite sources or to provide additional information about something mentioned in the main text.Academic papers, research reports, books.HyperlinksText or images that provide a link to another page or a different section of the same page. Often underlined and colored differently.Web pages, digital documents, e-books.Pull QuotesA brief, attention-grabbing quotation, typically in a larger or distinctive typeface, taken from the main text.Magazines, newspapers, blog articles.GlossaryAn alphabetical list of terms with their definitions, usually placed at the end of a book.Textbooks, technical manuals, academic books.IndexAn alphabetical list of names, subjects, etc. with reference to the pages on which they are mentioned.Books, reports, technical manuals.Bibliography/ReferencesA list of the books, articles, websites, etc., used or referred to by the author.Academic papers, research reports, books.InfographicsVisual representations of information, data, or knowledge intended to present complex information quickly and clearly.Websites, magazines, business reports.MapsVisual representations of an area of land or sea showing physical features.Travel books, geography textbooks, research reports.SidebarsA short article or information that is adjacent to and complements the main text.Magazines, academic papers, textbooks.TextboxesBoxes containing additional or highlight information, separate from the main text.Textbooks, presentations, digital documents.Cover PagesThe first page of a document, often containing the title, author, and publication date.Books, academic papers, business reports.ProloguesA separate introductory section in a book that provides background information, often before the start of the main story.Novels, plays, literary works.EpiloguesA section or speech at the end of a book or play that serves as a comment on, or a conclusion to, what has happened.Novels, plays, literary works.TitlesThe name of a book, composition, or other artistic work.Books, songs, films, articles.SubtitlesSecondary titles that provide more information about the content. 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There are countless text features, and I needed to stop somewhere – so I stopped at 27. A great strategy you can use when teaching about text features is to simply give students a range of different texts (e.g. a textbook, a novel, and an academic paper) and ask them to identify, describe, and even reproduce each text type they can find within the text.