**“Understanding the expository text structures**

**gives readers a better shot at determining important information when reading nonfiction...The text in standardized tests and traditional textbooks frequently falls into one or another of these text structures.**

**If students know what to look for in terms of text structure, they grasp the meaning more easily.”**

*from Nonfiction Matters, by Stephanie Harvey*

**Text Structure Examples:**

**Sequence:**

Goose bumps make me shiver. First I get cold. Then I shake

all over.

**Description:**

Goose bumps make me shiver. I get little bumps on my skin.

They look like sesame seeds.

**Compare and Contrast:**

Some people get goose bumps from fear. Others get goose

bumps when they are touched emotionally.

**Cause and Effect:**

Goose bumps make me shiver. When the temperature drops

below 45 degrees, my skin crinkles into goose bumps.

**Problem and Solution:**

Goose bumps make me shiver. But they disappear as soon as

I cover up with a jacket or sweater.

*Now, you try it!*

**Text Structure Examples:**

**Sequence:**

The first day of school is always an interesting day.

**Description:**

The first day of school is always an interesting day.

**Compare and Contrast:**

The first day of school is always an interesting day.

**Cause and Effect:**

The first day of school is always an interesting day.

**Problem and Solution:**

The first day of school is always an interesting day.