

Text Structures: A Growing Collection

The Story of My Thinking

What I used to think

But this happened

So now I think

A Memory

Where you were

Moment it started

Next moment

Final moment

What you thought

A Colorized Memory

Where you were
(dramatized)

Moment it started
(dramatized)

Next moment
(dramatized)

The final moment
(dramatized)

What you thought

A Completely Made up Story

Moment involving
character(s)

Moment when a
problem arises

How the characters try
(unsuccessfully) to
solve the problem

How the
characters solve it
(or deal with it)

A Fable

Animals doing
something

Conversation
between the
animals

Action

Result

Moral

Sequel to a Fable

Moral of original
fable

But the next day
the animals said

And this
happened

The result was

New moral

Comparing Notes (Mine and Others)

Some people think

And other people think

But I think

What that tells me

Tevye's Debate

On one hand

On the other
hand

But on the other
hand

But on the other
hand

How I can be
guided when the
choice is so tough

Evolution of a Term (word or phrase in the prompt)

What the word meant
to me when I was 4

What I was a little
older

What the word means
to me now

What the word will
probably mean when I
am ____ (pick an age)

Tribute to the Person Who Taught me Something

What the
lesson is

Flashback to
the lesson

Description of
the person

Lyrics or words
you can
remember that
person saying
(on the subject)

What I wish I
could find out
now from that
person

The Onion - Unlayering What We Know

One (real) belief
something we know

How do I know this?
(Tell one way, one thing
that happened)

If that had not
happened, how else
would you know it?

If that had not
happened how else
would you know it

Insight Garden/The 11-minute essay

An insight about
life

One illustration
from literature

One illustration
from a movie

An illustration
from my life

I wonder

Pet Peeve

What you saw
first

What you said to
yourself

What else you
saw

What you
decided

What you know
now

I Will Never

I will never ...

If I did ...

This would
cause ...

I've seen it
before like
when ...

So I have
decided
that ...

I will probably
change my
mind if ...

Replacement

I need to
replace my ...

I used to ...

Now it
doesn't ...

A new one
would ...

However ...

And so ...

Shopping List

I need to
buy ...

Without it ...

This would
cause ...

Eventually ...

And so ...

I only hope ...

A time you watched someone else do something on your won't-do list

I don't think
I will ever ...

I don't
understand
how someone
could ...

It's true
that ...

And so it's so
true that ...

However ...

So ...

Prized Possession

I just
couldn't do
without ...

It has the
most ...

It has ...

Before I had
it ...

That's why ...

Without it, I
would ...

Conversation: One thing you and your friends talk about

When I was
young, I
wondered
about ...

I thought that
probably ...

Since then ...

All I really need
to know now is ...

Eventually I'll ...

Curiosity: One thing you'd like to know about

I have sometimes
wondered
about ...

I know that ...

I also know
that ...

But I can't figure
out how ...

Even so, I will
always ...

Competency: Something you can do well

I've never/always
considered myself a ...

But then ...

That's when ...

So now ...

Conversation: Comparing notes

Some people think ...

Other people think ...

I think ...

What I wonder is ...

Work moment (Frustrating or Satisfying)

Where you were

What you were
doing

What you
heard/saw

What good
(or frustrating)
thing happened

What surprised
you

Going Against the Grain

Some people
think

This seems to
happen because ...

However I
believe ...

But I know people
feel strongly ...

Even so I will
always ...

Contributed by Christi Gonzales

Alternative Solution

Problem

Conventional solution

The problem with that

Another solution

David Brooks Editorials

This happened

An obvious way to think
about it is ...

The problem with that
view is ...

A better way to look
at it would be ...

contributed by Thomas Newkirk

Giving an Award

Who you choose

One quality
they have

One moment
where you saw
that quality

How that
affected
you then

What you
think of that
person still

Contributed by Theresa Phelps

Favorite Activity

I like to

My first
experience
with it

How you
do/play it

How it makes
you feel

Positive results

Contributed by Theresa Phelps

Ethos

You know (of)
this person

You trust
this person

This person
says _____

It must be true

Pathos

We value these things

Look what happened

Isn't that sad

We must do this

Logos

Here is a point

Reason/Evidence

Proven theories

So

Syllogism

If this is true

And this is true

Then this must be true

Cicero's arrangement (dispositio)

Who you are and
what you want

Exordium

Facts of the case

Narratio

What should be
done
(your position)

Confirmatio

Flaws in opposing
arguments

Refutatio

Summary and
next steps

Peroratio

Curiosity

I have wondered ...

I figured out that ...

Then I also figured out ...

Last I figured out ...

This all means that ...

What you can do about it

Robin Pool

Doing Something 101

Truism

Step 1

Step 2

Step 3

Step 4

Results (with image)

Robert Schuler

History of Something

Why this is

When this happened

What people thought then

What people think now

Loretta Anderson

Problem/Solution

Why people deliver messages like this

Our deep belief

How things are supposed to work

The problem

Proof

What we have tried (unsuccessfully)

Our solution

Declaration of Independence

Dilemma

Choice: Staying the same or changing

What change would mean

Biggest disadvantage of change

Biggest disadvantage of staying the same

How change might make it worse

What happens if you just don't decide

Hamlet - Act 3, Scene 1

Now Introducing

One person's
moment using
the thing

What
problem the
thing solves

How the
thing works

But one
problem the
thing creates

Reasons it is
a good idea
anyway

Data to
support the
purpose

From Drive Cam Article

Musing to an object

Direct address
and a question
(something you
want to know)



Description of
one physical
characteristic of
the object



Description of
another
characteristic of
the object, with
a simile



An imperative
to the object;
a wish or a
hope

Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

Text Structures Invented by Kids

Hindsight Reflections

This bad situation happened

How I should have reacted

Rather than making the best of a bad situation, how I did react

Now I know

Amanda Grosch

Seeking an Answer

I had this question

I asked somebody for an answer

I asked somebody else to confirm the previous answer

I tested out the answer for myself with this experience

What I learned from my experience

Giovanni Ocasio

Deception

I saw this happen

And so I did this

But then I realized

So now I know

Destiny Costly

We Agreed

I said this

And she/he said that

But we both agree on this

Eric Flores

The Right Choice

My problem

What my friend thinks I should do

So I decided to ...

Now I think

Rebecca Dschuden

Why We Do Things

This event happened

It caused me to be
in this mood

Which caused this to
happen

So now I know

Shawn St. Hilaire

Wishful Thinking

One problem in the world

Why it is this way

What you wish it would be
like

Gisela Navarro

Maturing Thoughts (over a key word in the prompt)

How important it was to
you when you were
_____ (young)

How important it was to
you when you were
_____ (older)

How important it is to
you now

How your thoughts
changed as you grew
older

Marissa LaRochelle

The Unexpected Reaction

What I said

How the listener reacted

What I learned

Samantha Runnels

Action Up

I used to act like this

Then I went
through this

Which made me
consider the future
like this

So now I act like this

Casey Towle

Explanation of a Term

Dictionary -
like definition

Your personal
definition

What feeling
you get
from it

What others
make you
think

Example in
society today

Anther
example
(optional)

Cary Inzerello

Following a Path

Where I started
out in life

Where I found myself

Where I am now

Where I might be in
the future

Rebekah Long

A Box of Chocolates

What happened

What you
expected to get

What you really got

How you reacted

Marco Vidarri

Influences and Consequences

I was taught this

But I was influenced
by this

So I did this

And the Consequences
were this

Adam Saenz

A Bad Choice

A choice you made

What happened after
that choice

Things you learned
later about that choice

What you think now
about that choice
you made

Joseph Kidder

Never Ever

What I've never done

Why I've never done it

Will I ever do it?

Adrian Martinez

Temptations

How someone else
was tempted

So I was tempted

So then we
did this

Then this
happened

Then this
happened

Tabitha Flores

True Friends

My friend would
always do this

So I believe this
about them

Then over time, they
started/stopped
doing this

So now I think this
about them

Dash Dalrymple

Anxiety

A fear I have ...

What made me scared ...

Will I be scared in the
future?

Amanda Garza

Change of Heart

Because I
thought this ...

I used to feel
this ...

But this
happened ...

So now I
feel this ...

Which makes me
think that ...

Anissa Castaña

Discovering the Fireworks

What the spectacular event was

How it made you feel

Why it made you feel that way

What it made you realize

A. J. Ouellette

Wrong Assumption

I made this wrong assumption

Something happened as a consequence

I learned the truth

So now I believe

Diana Diaz

Garden of Eden

One time long ago

As time passed

Now ...

Tara Coleman

Expert Testimony

According to this person

According to this other person ...

But according to me ...

So now I think ...

LaQuette Barksdale

Alternate Choices

I can either do this ...

Or I can do this

I choose _____ because

Marisa Farias

Elimination or Confirmation

I've never been
sure if

But I've always
suspected

Because once I
experienced

Which made me
think that

And finally I
realized

Michael Gonzalez

Sensory Associations

When I
heard/smell/see ...

It reminds me of ...

Which makes me feel ...

Because ...

Julee Lanum

The Evolution of a Habit

I used to have
this habit

Because I thought this

But then this happened

As a result, the habit
was _____

Alexander Burke

The Real Deal

I saw someone

I assumed ...

When actually ...

So now I understand ...

Amber Wojtek

What is it? (Defining a Word)

Is it this?

Or this?

Or this?

A memory

Which makes me
realize it's this

Adrian Martinez

Confusing Testimony

Someone told me
(an inaccurate thing)

Then I checked I with
someone else

And that person
set me straight

How I explain
that 1st person's
misinformation

Alexander Burke

Yellow Brick Road

This (bad thing)
happened

And this is how I
reacted

Then later something
similar happened

So, reflecting on my
prior experience, this
time I did this instead

Nathan McCann

Find and Truth Through Experience

I heard this

But I thought
the opposite

Then I had this
experience

Now I think this

Nathan Hay

Not on my Nerves Any More

I used to hate it
when other people ...

But then I realized I also did it

So now when I see
other people doing it
I remember that ...

Tricia Asher

Crossing the River Again

A recurring
challenge

How the
challenge first
came up

But since then
this happened

How I now meet
the challenge

How it still
challenges me

Clayton Graham

Use Your Noodle

I was taught this

What I thought about
what I was taught

But this happened

So what I now
think about what
I was taught

Brianna Cook

You Never Know

I assumed ...

But it turned out ...

So now I think

Matt Cadena

The Idea

I think about a ...

I ask other people what
they think

We put our thought
together

We came up with a
final decision

Leanna Hernandez

Day Dreamer

Sometimes I'm thinking a lot
about

What made me think it

What this thought means

Sarah Crickmore

With This in Mind

One true thing

With this in mind, it
will not be possible for

One hardship that
will create

So now I wonder

Ashley Brzostowski

The Game

There was a perfect time when ...

But then ...

Now I know ...

Stacey Arias

Making a Change

One thing I wanted
to change

What was stopping me

Even though I
know this ...

So ...

Samantha Ross

Thinking Hurts

This happened

Which
caused this

Which made
this happen

Which
caused this

Which made me
think this

Stephen Crisp

Faith in Spite of Experience

Despite this repeated
bad thing happening ...

I know that ...

So I will do this

Carmen Garcia

Wisdom Tug-of-War

I was always
told to ...

Then I actually
wanted

In order to
keep me on
the right path

But instead I

I slowly realized
that

Bernard Gottschalk

Your Actions

Something makes
you too confident
in this belief

Your actions cause
a downfall

So now, you
act like this

Because now
you believe

Marcus Garcia

Deciding Through Diverse Opinions

We did this

I thought it was a
bad idea because

But others
thought
differently

So together we
concluded

So we did this

Megan Morefield

Changing Gears

_____ is
(characteristic)

One thing they
did that shows
this

When asked why
he/she behaved
in this manner

Gradually

To this day ...

Inspired by Elise Leal

Wo ... Wo ... Wonder

I used to wonder

Because

Be then this happened

So I no longer wonder;
now I think ...

Re'Shelle Kibler

Line of Thought

One time this happened

Which made this
happen

Which made me realize
this

So this happened

Chris Clay

Seeing is Believing

What I did first

But then I saw

And that made me
think

So then I did this ...

Molly Pierce and Sarah Sinclair

She Saw

She saw ...

And she thought

I saw the
same thing

And I thought

So I guess

Adria Warner

Who Reacted When

Why this happened

How this happened

When this happened

What people
thought about it

Alex Blue

Metamorphosis

How you
felt before
it happened

How you felt
while it was
happening

How you felt
after it happened

How you feel now

What you believe
now

Kelsey Mahan

What the Heck

My friends
did this

I thought
about it

I believe
_____ so

I did this

They reacted
like this

So now, we ...

Casey Lewis

The Influence of We

What I thought

How I felt about
this thought

What others
thought about my
thoughts

What I thought
about my
thoughts after
others told me
what they
thought

What I know

Sarah Chu

Cause and Effect

I did this

It caused this

Now I know this

Celeste Ramirez

Life Lesson, Past and Future

What the life lesson is

What it means to you

How it affected
your life (past)

How it will affect
your life (future)

Adam Hinds

Backfire

I did this

Because of

What I was
hoping for

But instead this
happened

So now I think

Armando Barrera

Life Lessons Learned

I never realized

Until this happened

Then I realized

So now I try ...

Amanda Walker

Discovering A Lie

Someone told me

So I believed

Then I found out

So now I think/know

Alyssa Flores

Changing Your Mind

I believe this

But society
proved me wrong
by doing this

So then I
believe this

But then this
happened

So now I believe
this

Greg Herbst

I Wish

I wish that

But I know

And knowing this

Makes me believe ...

Steven Young

Arguing

I said this ...

They said that ...

We argued
because of

How we resolve it

Now I think this

Remy Locasio

Then What?

One way I got in
trouble

After that this
happened

Then this
happened

I was thinking
about my
consequences

So now I think

Artemis Martinez and Justin Garza