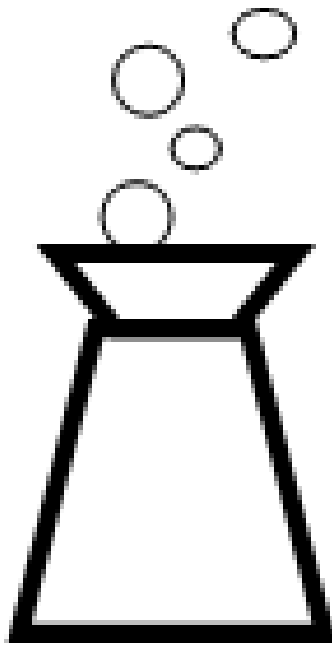


# Science

## Kernel Essay Text Structures



Compiled by Janette Wilcken (6th grade teacher, Maypearl, Texas)  
from Gretchen Bernabei's kernel essay text structures.

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# SCIENCE

## Kernel Essay Text Structures



### Alerting Reader to a Problem

Visual image  
of problem

What will  
happen in the  
future

One plan

Attitude  
change re-  
quired

Imagine if...

### Problem Awareness

Problem

Causes

Effects

Possible  
solutions

### Cubing an Object

Describe it

How it is used

What it is  
like/unlike

How it can  
change

What it can  
cause

### Introducing an object/invention

What you  
know about it

What prob-  
lem the thing  
solves

How the thing  
works

One problem  
the thing  
creates

Reasons it is a  
good idea  
anyway

Data/facts to  
support the  
purpose

# SCIENCE

## Kernel Essay Text Structures



### Curiosity: One thing you'd like to know about

I have some-  
times wondered  
about...

I know that...

I also know  
that...

But I can't  
figure out  
how...

Even so, I will  
always...

### Alternative Solution

Problem

Conventional  
solution

The problem  
with that

Another  
solution

### Reflection of a lesson

What the  
lesson is/was

Flashback to  
the lesson

Description of  
the person I  
learned from

Lyrics or words you  
remember that per-  
son saying (on the  
subject)

What I wish I  
could find out  
about it now

### 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...

# SCIENCE

## Kernel Essay Text Structures



### Seeking an Answer

I had this question...

I asked somebody for an answer

I asked somebody else to confirm the previous answer

I tested the answer for myself with this experience

What I learned from my experience

### Evolution of a term

What this word meant to me when I was 4

When I was a little older

What the word means to me now

What the word might mean when I am \_\_\_\_ (pick an age)

### Musing to an object (Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star)

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

### Dilemma

Choice: Staying the same or changing

What would change 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

# SCIENCE

## Kernel Essay Text Structures



### Sensory Associations

When I hear/  
smell/see...

It reminds  
me of...

Which makes  
me feel...

Because...

### Syllogism

If this is true...

And this is true...

Then this must be  
true...

### Elimination or confirmation

I've never  
been sure if

But I've  
always  
suspected/  
thought

Because once  
I experienced

Which made  
me think that

And I finally  
realized

### 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)