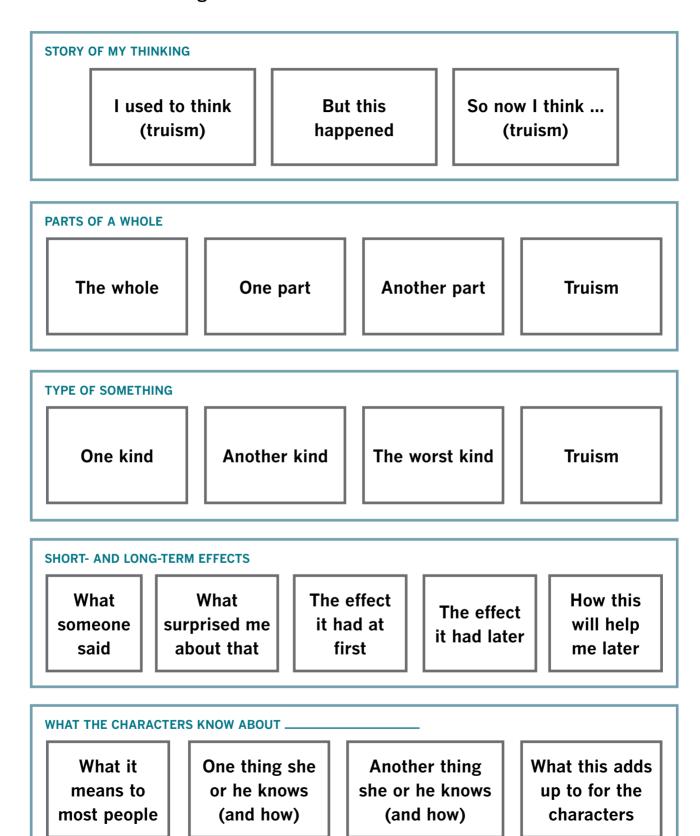
# **Complete Text Structures Collection**

# **Structures for Writing About Life Themes**



# Structures for Explaining a Concept

**CASE STUDY** 

Question

My (or someone else's) experience

What that shows

**Truism** 

**COMPARING NOTES** 

Some people think ...

Other people think ...

But I think ...

So I will ...

THE ONION

Truism

How do I know this? (one way)

If that had not happened, how else would I know this? If that had not happened, how else would I know this?

Truism

**RECONSIDERING A BELIEF** 

Most people think ...

... because (one way it's good)

But ... (one way it's bad)

So ... (truism)

**LIFE LESSON** 

**Truism** 

How it's true in the story

How it's true in life

How this will help me

# **Structures for Character Analysis**

## **EVOLUTION OF A TERM**

What the word meant to me when I was little

What it meant when I was a little older

What it means to me now

What it will mean to me later in my life

What all this says to me

## **CHAIN REACTION**

One thing that happened

What that caused

What else that caused

How it turned out

Truism

#### **DOUBLE TAKE**

What happened

A negative way to view this

A positive way to view this

Which way I think is stronger

Truism

### **NEWS/GOSSIP: TELL ME, TELL ME**

At the time ...

All of a sudden ...

This was surprising because ...

People said ...

It just goes to show you:

### **CHANGE OF PLANS**

Where I was going (and why)

Something unexpected that happened

How my plans changed

What I think (truism)

# Structures for Analyzing a Theme in Literature

## **WRONG ASSUMPTIONS**

I made this wrong assumption

... happened as a consequence

I learned this truth

So now I believe ...

#### FINDING OUT FOR SURE

I've never been sure if ... But I've always suspected that ...

Because once I experienced ...

Which made me think that ...

And finally I realized that ...

#### **DEFINITION**

Definition of something

How to tell if something fits this definition

One example that fits

Truism

### THE 11-MINUTE ESSAY

**Truism** 

How it's true in a story

How it's true in a movie

How it's true in my life

I wonder ...

## **TEVYE'S DEBATE**

On one hand ...

On the other hand ...

But on the other hand ...

But on the other hand ...

So ...

# **Structures for Commentary About Plot**

STORY OF MY THINKING

I used to think (truism)

But this happened

So now I think ... (truism)

**HINDSIGHT REFLECTIONS** 

This bad situation happened

How I should have reacted

How I did react

Now I know ...

**SURPRISE ENDING** 

A big mistake someone made

What this caused

How it turned out

If the mistake had not happened

Truism

WAYS TO DO SOMETHING

**Truism** 

A bad way (and why)

A better way (and why)

The best way

**DESCRIPTION** 

What it is

Kinds of it

Where you can find it

Parts of it

Truism about it

# **Structures for Making an Argument**

**CROSSING MY PATH** 

Real life example

Truism

Example from story

How it relates to me today

Question about truism

**NOW AND LATER** 

**Problem** 

A shortcut solution

A long-term solution

How I would decide which is better

FINDING THE TRUTH THROUGH EXPERIENCE

I heard this

But I thought the opposite

Then I heard about this experience

Now I think this

**CURIOSITY** 

I wondered ...

I figured out ...

Then I also figured out ...

Last I figured out ...

This all means that ...

FIVE-PARAGRAPH ESSAY

Truism

One way to tell (with example)

Another way to tell (with example)

Another way to tell (with example)

How this knowledge can help

# **Structures for Content-Area Writing**

#### **LEARNING FROM MISTAKES**

One way I got in trouble

What happened after that

What I thought about my consequences

What I realize now

### **SOLVING A MYSTERY**

What I know

What I don't know

Steps I took to find out

Successful?

Life lesson (truism)

#### **SOMETHING CHANGED**

What changed

How it used to be

How it is now

It helps me to know that ...

#### **MAKING A CHANGE**

I wanted to change this

But this was stopping me

So I did this

**Truism** 

#### **DISCOVERING THE TRUTH**

Someone told me (or I read) ...

So I assumed ...

When actually ...

So now I understand ... (truism)

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