**Text Structure Quick Check Activity**

Directions: Use the handouts you just received to identify the possible text structure of each short piece of text. Consider which signal words you see, which comprehension questions you could ask yourself and/or which graphic organizer would fit.

1. The devastation caused by the Great Depression was not confined to the United States. Its effects were being felt in cities and countries all around the world.  
     
   **Probable text structure:**
2. One of the most immediate problems facing Franklin Roosevelt after the election was how to get huge numbers of people back to work quickly.  
     
   **Probable text structure:**
3. The Great Depression in the United States is said to have begun on Black Tuesday, October 29th of 1929, with the stock market crash and ended when we entered World War II in 1941.  
     
   **Probable text structure:**
4. Life for the millions of people out of work during the Great Depression was harsh and often involved riding the rails and living in makeshift shelters in areas known as shantytowns.  
     
   **Probable text structure:**
5. Although the Great Depression impacted every region of the country, the hardships faced by those living in rural areas were very different from the difficulties those living in major cities encountered.  
     
   **Probable text structure:**

**Text Structure Activity Example**

Directions: This handout may be used to actively engage in the model lesson presented on slides 18 through 24. You may wish to reference Handout #1, *Informational Text Structure*, as you do this activity. Use the handout to find the signal words that would help identify the text structure and to underline or circle answers to comprehension questions you could ask yourself. You may also consider which graphic organizer you would fill out for this text.

**Economic Impact**

The economy of nearly every city was impacted by the flu epidemic of 1918. The workforce was paralyzed because 21-to-29 year olds suffered the greatest casualties. Essential services were on the verge of collapse since workers like firemen, nurses, and garbage collectors were too sick to come to work. New public health ordinances prohibiting public gatherings resulted in theaters, cinemas and hotels losing millions of dollars.

As a result of the unexpected high volume of deaths among the young, insurance actuarial projections were incorrect. Therefore, many insurance companies were unable to pay life insurance claims.

*Adapted from ELA CCSS document, Appendix c, pp. 80–81*

|  |
| --- |
| Graphic Organizers: which one would be most useful? |
| Cause  Effect  Effect  Cause  Effect  Cause  Effect  Event  Cause  Cause  Cause  Effect  Effect  Effect  Cause  Effect  Effect  Effect |