



Text Summarization Using Writing Frames

Instructional Resources

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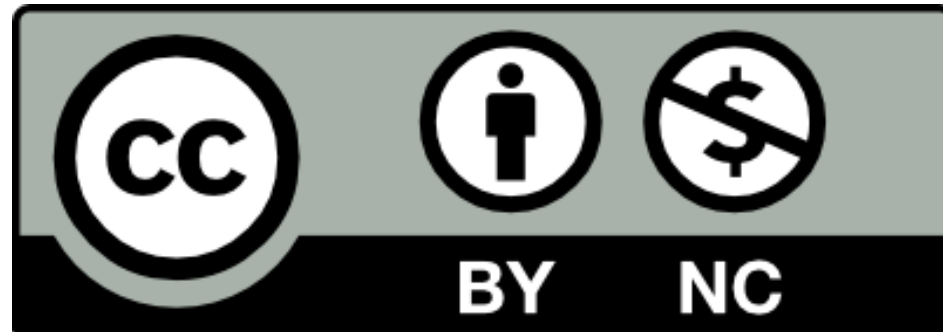


Acknowledgments

The content for this training day was developed based on the work of:

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Summary Writing Frames:

Informational and Narrative Text

Summary Writing Frame: Informational Text

Resource: _____ Chapter: _____ Topic: _____

In this section of the chapter, a number of critical points were made about...

First, the authors pointed out that...

This was important because...

Next, the authors mentioned that...

Furthermore, they indicated...

This was critical because...

Finally, the authors suggested that...

Example Informational Text Summary

- In this section of the chapter, a number of critical points were made about Alfred Wegener's theory of continental drift. First, the authors pointed out that Wegener believed that all the continents were once joined together in a single landmass that drifted apart, forming the continents of today. This was important because it explained why the outline of the continents as they are today fit together. Next, the authors mentioned that Wegener argued that there were many pieces of evidence supporting his theory of continental drift.

Example Informational Text Summary, cont.

- Furthermore, they indicated that Wegener used evidence of similar landforms and fossils on different continents to prove his theory. This was critical because other scientists could validate this evidence. Finally, the authors suggested that, despite the evidence, other scientists did not accept Wegener's theory because he could not explain the forces that push and pull the continents.

Summary Writing Frame: Narrative Text

- The title of the story was...
- The setting of the story was...
- _____ was the main character of the story.
- In the story, we learned that... was ...
- His/her main problem/conflict/goal was...
- At first, _____ tried to resolve this problem/conflict/goal by...
- Later, they tried to resolve the problem/conflict/goal by...
- In the end, the following happened...

Narrative Text Summary Example

The title of the story was **My Summer Vacation**. The setting of the story was **a cattle ranch in Texas during summer vacation**. Wallace was the main character of the story. We learned that **Wallace was a young city boy who was spending his summer with the crew on the ranch**. His main problem was **that he had to learn all of the skills of a wrangler such as how to move the cattle from one location to another and use a lasso properly**.

Narrative Text Summary Example, cont.

At first, Wallace tried to resolve this problem by carefully observing the ranch hands and mimicking their behaviors. Later, he tried to resolve the problem by asking the other wranglers, the ranch manager, and even the cook to teach him ranch skills. In the end, the following happened: Wallace stopped a stampede.

Summary Writing Frame:

Video Presentation

Summary Writing Frame: Video Presentation

- Although I already knew that...
- I learned some new facts from the video titled...
- I learned...
- I also discovered that...
- Another fact I learned was...
- However, the most important/interesting thing I became aware of was...

Video Presentation Summary Example

Although I already knew that migrating Vaux Swifts gather in NW Portland, Oregon in the fall, I learned some new facts from the video titled Vaux Swifts. I learned that the Vaux Swifts can not perch like other song birds due to the structure of their claws. These birds either cling to the walls of a hollow tree or a chimney or fly. I also discovered that their natural habitat is declining, forcing them to sleep in chimneys. Another fact I learned was that up to 30,000 swifts gather at Chapman Elementary School where they dive down into the chimney at sunset.

Video Presentation Summary Example, cont.

- However, the most interesting thing I became aware of was that the children at the school are very supportive of the migrating Vaux Swifts. To protect the swifts in the school chimney, the heat is turned off until the swifts migrate, resulting in the students wearing sweaters and coats in class.

Compare and Contrast Summary Writing Frames

Compare and Contrast Writing Frame

____ and ____ are similar in a number of ways.

First they both...

Another critical similarity is...

An equally important similarity is...

Finally, they...

The difference between ____ and ____ are also obvious.

The most important difference is...

In addition, they are...

In the final analysis, ____ differs from ____ in two major ways:

Compare and Contrast Writing Frame Example

Narrative and informative written products are similar in a number of ways. First, they both have an author intent on sharing his/her ideas. Another critical similarity is that the goal of informative and narrative writing is to communicate to a reader or a group of readers. An equally important similarity is that both genre utilize the words, mechanics, and grammar of the author's language. Finally, both are read on a daily basis across the world.

Compare and Contrast Writing Frame Example, cont.

- The difference between narrative and informative written products are also obvious. The most important difference is their purpose. Narratives convey a story, real or imagined, while informative products transmit information that the reader needs or is interested in learning. In addition, they are structured differently. The structure of a narrative is based on the elements of a story: settings, characters, the characters' problems, attempts at resolving the problem, and finally its resolution.

Example Compare and Contrast Writing Frame, cont.

- In contrast, when writing an informative product, authors organize information into paragraphs, each containing a topic and critical details. In the final analysis, narratives differ from informative texts in two major ways: content and structure.

Additional Compare and Contrast Writing Frame

_____ and _____ are the same in several ways.

First of all, _____ and _____ are both...

Likewise, they are...

In the same way, they are...

Therefore,... and ... have much in common.

_____ and _____ are different in several ways.

First of all, _____ is/are _____ while _____ is/are _____.

Moreover, _____ is/are _____ while _____ is/are _____.

Another way that they differ is...

Additional Compare and Contrast Writing Frame

- Although ____ and ____ are different, they are alike in some interesting ways.
- For example, they both...
- They re also similar in...
- The _____ is the same as...
- The _____ resembles...
- Finally, they both...

Cause and Effect Summary Writing Frames

Cause and Effect Writing Frame (Basic)

- There are several reasons why...
- One reason is...
- Another reason is...
- Finally...

Cause and Effect Writing Frame (Intermediate)

There are many effects of... It is important to understand these effects because...

One effect is... (provide details)

In addition... (provide details)

One other effect of... is... (provide details)

Now that you understand the effects of... you can see that...

Explanation Summary Writing Frame

Explanation Writing Frame (Basic)

- There are a number of reasons why...
- The most important reason is...
- Another reason is...
- A further reason is...
- So you can see why...

Explanation Writing Frame Example

- There are a number of reasons why non-native plants and animals damage the Great Lakes. The most important reason is that many invasive species take food from native species. Another reason is that some of the invasive, non-native species attach to docks and to boats, causing great damage. A further reason is that some non-native species clog water pipes, restricting the movement of water to industries and residences. So you can see why actions need to be taken to protect the Great Lakes from invasive, non-native plants and animals.

Explanation Writing Frame (Intermediate)

- There are differing explanations as to why (how, what or when)...
- One explanation is that...
- The evidence for this is...
- An alternative explanation is...
- The basis of this explanation is...
- Of these possible explanations, I think the most likely is...

Graphic Analysis Summary Writing Frames

Analysis of Graphic Writing Frame

- The title of the graphic is... The type of graphic is...
- Its purpose is to...
- One critical observation that I made was...
- This is important because...
- I reached a number of conclusions through my analysis of this graphic.
- First,... Second...
- Finally,...

Example Social Studies Graphic



Western World, Holt Social Studies

Analysis of Graphic Writing Frame Example

The title of this graphic is **Mexico's Trading Partners**. The type of graphic is **a pie graph**. Its purpose is to **convey information about Mexico's imports and exports in 2005**. One critical observation that I made was **that Mexico's major trade partner is the United States**. This is important because it emphasizes **the economic relationship between the United States and Mexico, its southern neighbor**.

Analysis of Graphic Example, cont.

- I reached a number of conclusions through my analysis of this graphic. First, Mexico has a higher percentage (89%) of their exports going to the US than the percentage of imports (63%) coming into Mexico from the US. Second, 10% of Mexico's imports come from Asian countries, China and Japan. Finally, it is obvious that Mexico's economy is very dependent on Mexico's relationship with the United States.

Process Writing Summary Writing Frame

Process Writing Frame

- To _____, you need to follow these basic steps.
- First you need to...
- Next,...
- Then...
- When you finish, you should have...

Problem-Solution Summary Writing Frames

Problem-Solution Writing Frame

- In this problem, we were asked to figure out _____. Some information that was already given included _____ and _____. When creating a plan to solve this problem, I decided to follow a number of steps.
- First, I...
- Next, I...
- Then, I...
- Finally, I...
- After following these steps, I determined that the answer was...

Problem-Solution Writing Frame, cont.

- To check this answer, I...
- Based on my verification of the answer, I am quite certain that it is accurate.

Argument Summary Writing Frame

Argument Writing Frame

- Though not everyone would agree, I want to argue that...
- I have several reasons for arguing this point of view.
- My first reason is...
- A further reason is...
- Furthermore...
- Therefore, although some people might argue that...
- I have shown that...

Argument Writing Frame Example

- Though not everybody would agree, I want to argue that Andrew Jackson was not the president for the common man though he was the first US president not born into a rich family. I have several reasons for this point of view. My first reason is that Jackson's policies called for the removal of Native Americans from their homelands in order to allow white settlers to take over native territories. A further reason is that while Jackson expanded suffrage to white men who did not have property, voting rights were not extended to women.

Argument Writing Frame Example, cont.

Furthermore, Jackson was a plantation owner with at least 150 slaves. Therefore, although some people might argue that President Jackson, our 7th President, was the president for the common man because of his impoverished roots, I have shown that Jackson was NOT the president for Native Americans, women or African Americans.

Example Argument Writing Frame

- There is a lot of discussion about whether...
- The people who agree with this idea claim that...
- A further point they make is...
- However, there are also strong arguments against this point of view.
- People with the opposing view believe that... They say that...
- Furthermore, they claim that... After examining the different points of view and the evidence from them, I think... because...

Opinion Summary Writing Frame

Opinion Writing Frame

- I think that...
- I feel this way because...
- Another reason I feel this way is...
- Most importantly, I think...
- For these reasons, I believe that...

Description

Summary Writing Frames

Description Writing Frame

- When describing _____, the word that comes to mind is...
- One reason is...
- Another reason is...
- Finally, _____ is _____ because...
- Thus, _____ is the best description of _____.

Character Analysis Summary Writing Frame

Character Analysis Writing Frame (Basic)

- The character _____ in _____ can best be described as...
- This is evident when...
- _____ also shows this trait when he/she...
- Further, his/her _____ is evident when...
- Thus, _____ is a good way to describe _____.

Character Analysis Writing Frame (Intermediate)

- A significant personality trait of _____ in _____ is that he/she was...
- The first incident where (or way that) the character demonstrates this trait was...
- _____ also shows this trait when he/she...
- Finally, _____ shows that he/she is _____ when...
- It is clear that this characteristic makes _____ a more (interesting, intriguing, compelling, or other adjective) character in _____.

Exit Ticket Writing Frames

Exit Ticket Writing Frame

- Directions: Complete _____ of these statements:
 1. Today I learned...
 2. I was surprised by...
 3. The most useful think that I will take from this lesson is... because...
 4. One thing I am not sure about is...
 5. The main thing I want to find our more about is...
 6. After this session, I feel...

Miscellaneous Frames

Email Communication to a Teacher: Raising a Question

- Dear _____,
- I hope your day is going well. I have a question regarding...
- I am raising this question because...
- If possible, could we further discuss my question soon? I am available...
- Thank you in advance for taking the time to assist me.
- (Insert your name)

Peer Feedback

- Thank you for the opportunity to review...
- Some strengths I noticed in your work include...
- You may want to consider _____ to enhance your work further. I recommend this because...
- Another consideration to enhance your work is.... I raise this suggestion because...
- If you have any questions about my feedback, please let me know.

Please Note:

- There are a number of writing frame examples that are identified as “basic” or “intermediate.” When considering which frame to use with students, consider the complexity of the text when selecting the format of the summary. Using a writing frame identified as “basic” may be helpful if students are engaging with a text that is cognitively demanding.