

A decorative graphic in the top-left corner consisting of a network of colorful arrows (blue, orange, green, purple) and various icons (microphone, document, globe, person, gear, etc.) pointing in various directions, suggesting connectivity and flow.

connect

Chapter Six:

Recognizing Patterns of Organization



Predicting Paragraph Structure

- Allows you to form a schema -- a structure that you can use to format the material mentally.
- This prepares your mind to receive information that is given in a certain pattern.



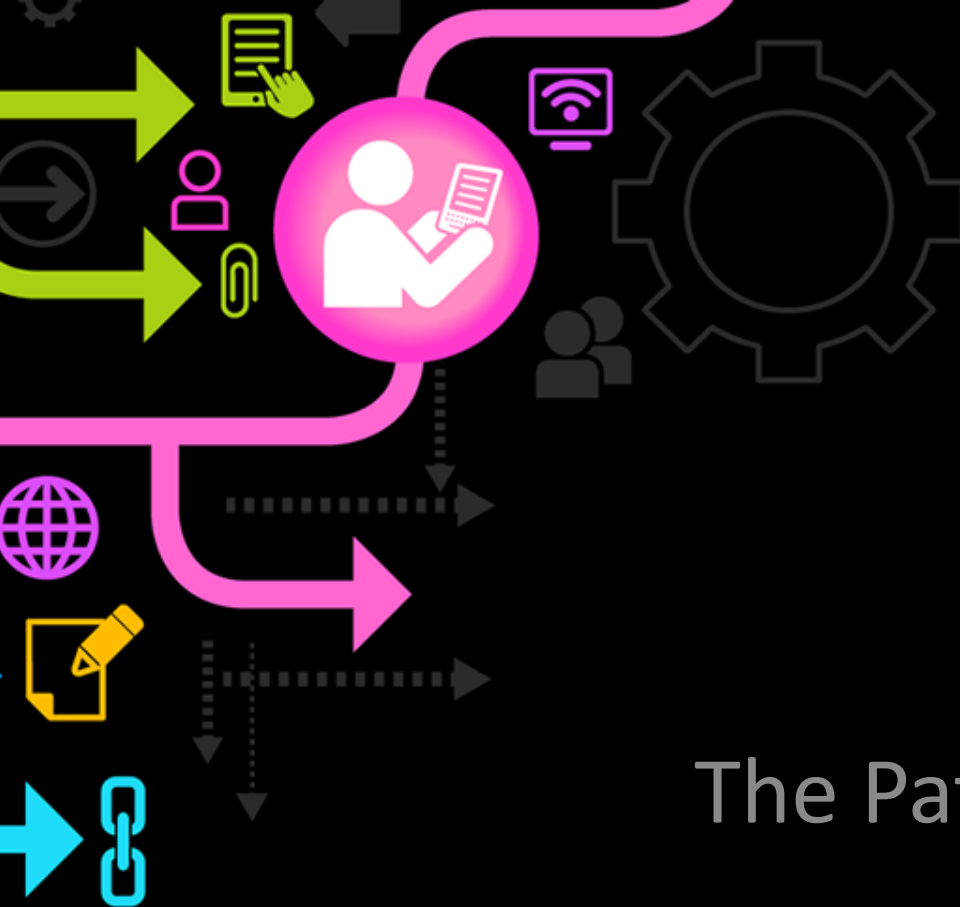
Examining Paragraph Patterns

- Paragraphs usually have a main idea and supporting details.
- There are eight different patterns authors use when writing about supporting details.



The Paragraph Patterns

- Description
- Narration
- Process
- Cause-and-effect
- Examples
- Comparison and contrast
- Definition
- Classification



The Patterns
DESCRIPTION

Description

About the Pattern

Description shows readers what something looks, sounds, feels, tastes, or smells like.

Description

Reading Strategy

8 Mentally use your senses of sight, hearing, feeling, smelling and your sense of movement to re-create the scene the author is describing.

Spatial Arrangement

- Placement in space is often an important method for organizing sensory details. When you are reading, look for words that signal how the elements of the scene are arranged.

Description

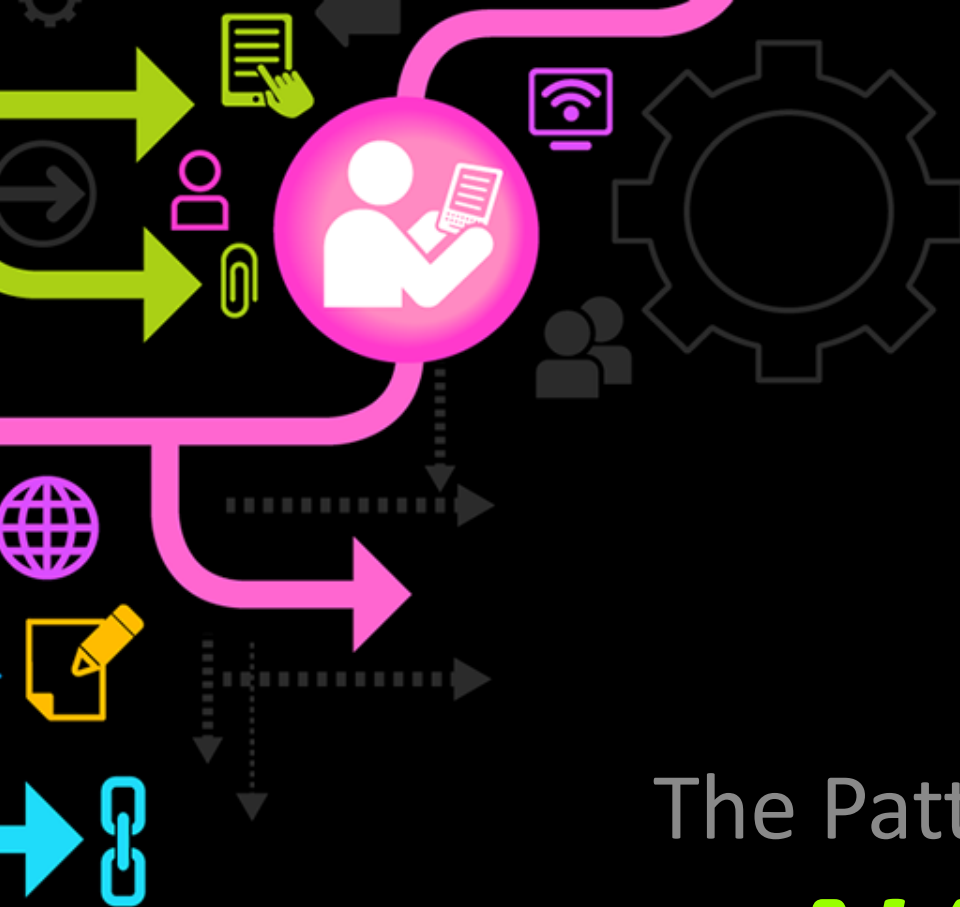
Space Order Signal Words

- in the foreground, in the background
- on the left, in the middle, on the right
- in front of, behind, in back of
- north, south, east, west
- above, below, underneath, behind, forward, in front of

– See page 282 in your book for more.

Sensory Details

- Words that describe sensory details help descriptive writing come alive.
- Combinations of sensory details create word-pictures with emotional overtones.



The Patterns
NARRATION

Narration

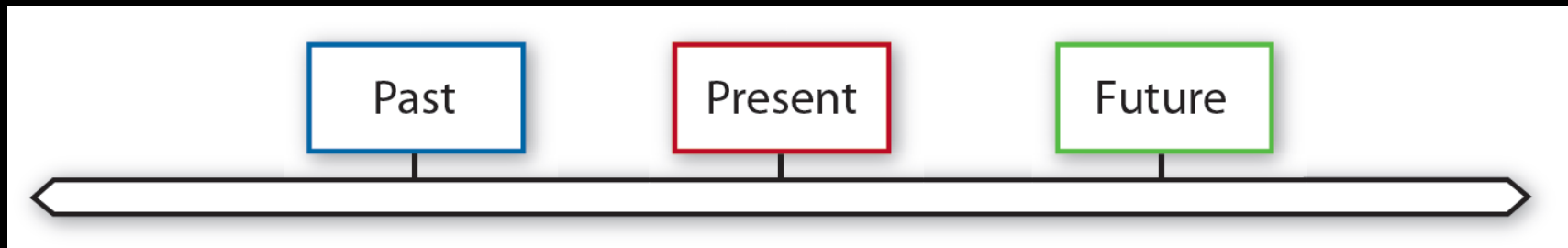
About the Pattern

- Narration tells readers how something happened (or will happen).
- Narratives use **time order**.

Narration

Reading Strategy

Mentally place the events the author is narrating on a timeline



Narration

Specific Time Words and Dates

Time is a crucial element in narration. When you are reading, look for phrases that will help you figure out when things have occurred.

Narration

Signal Words (Transitions) for Time Order

- Monday through Friday
- during that time
- before, during, after
- first, second, third
- since [a date]: since 1976
- on Wednesday; on March 17, 2007

See page 284 in your book for more.

Narration

Verbs and Verb Phrases

- Verbs can indicate when things happened in relation to other events.
- Verbs can express the present, the past, the future, and continuing actions.

Vote With Your Feet

- The next slides will display a sentence.
- You will be asked to move to one side of the room or the other based on what pattern the sentence is describing.

A paragraph that describes what something looks like.



Narration

Description

Put events on a timeline while reading this type of paragraph.



Narration



Description

A paragraph that uses the words before, during, and after.



Narration



Description

A paragraph that uses space order.



Narration

Description

A paragraph that tells how something happened.



Narration



Description

A paragraph that uses time order.



Narration

Description

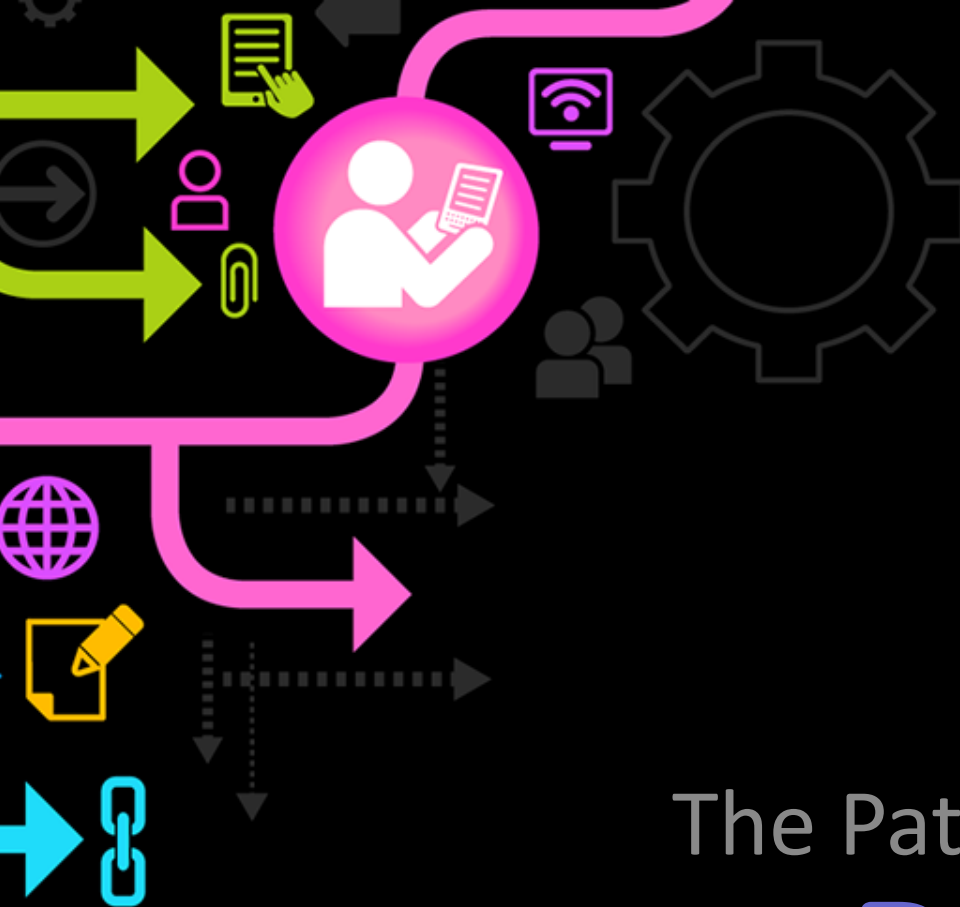
Use your imagination to recreate a scene while reading this paragraph.



Narration



Description

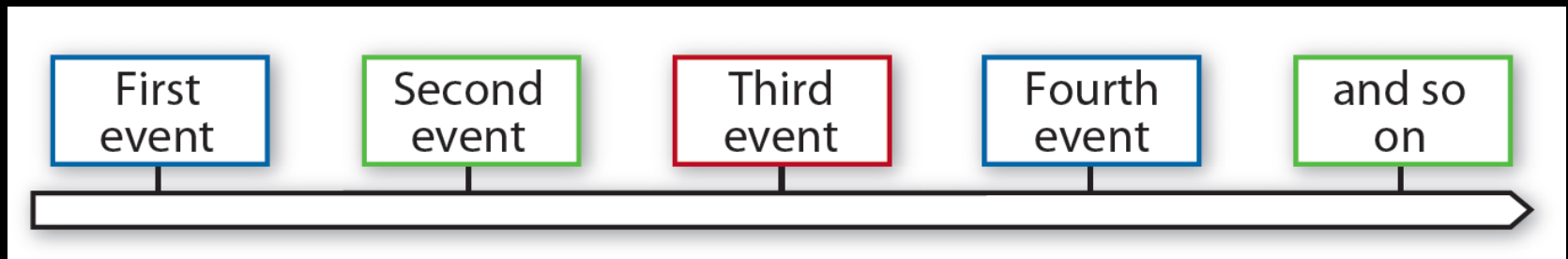


The Patterns *PROCESS*

About the Pattern

- Process reveals to readers what steps need to occur for something to happen, and in what order.
- Frequently found in science courses and technical contexts.
- Relies on time order
- Sometimes relies on initial conditions

Mentally fill in the events on a generalized timeline.

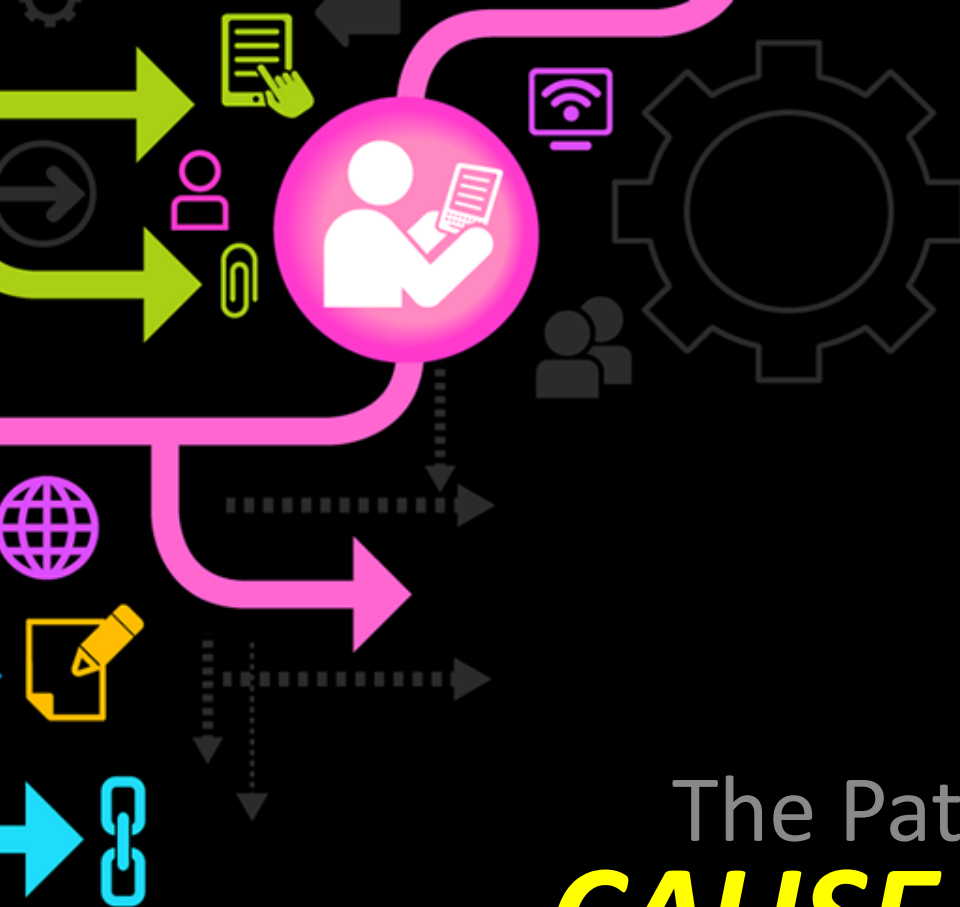


Signal Words (Transitions) for Processes

- first step, second step, third step
- first stage, second stage, third stage
- phases
- that (that, these, those) stages or steps
- first, then, eventually, last
- start, continue, end

Plus any of the words from the narration list on page 284 in your book.

- Sometimes processes only work under certain conditions.
- Water, for example, changes to ice only at 32°F.



The Patterns
CAUSE AND EFFECT

Cause-and-Effect

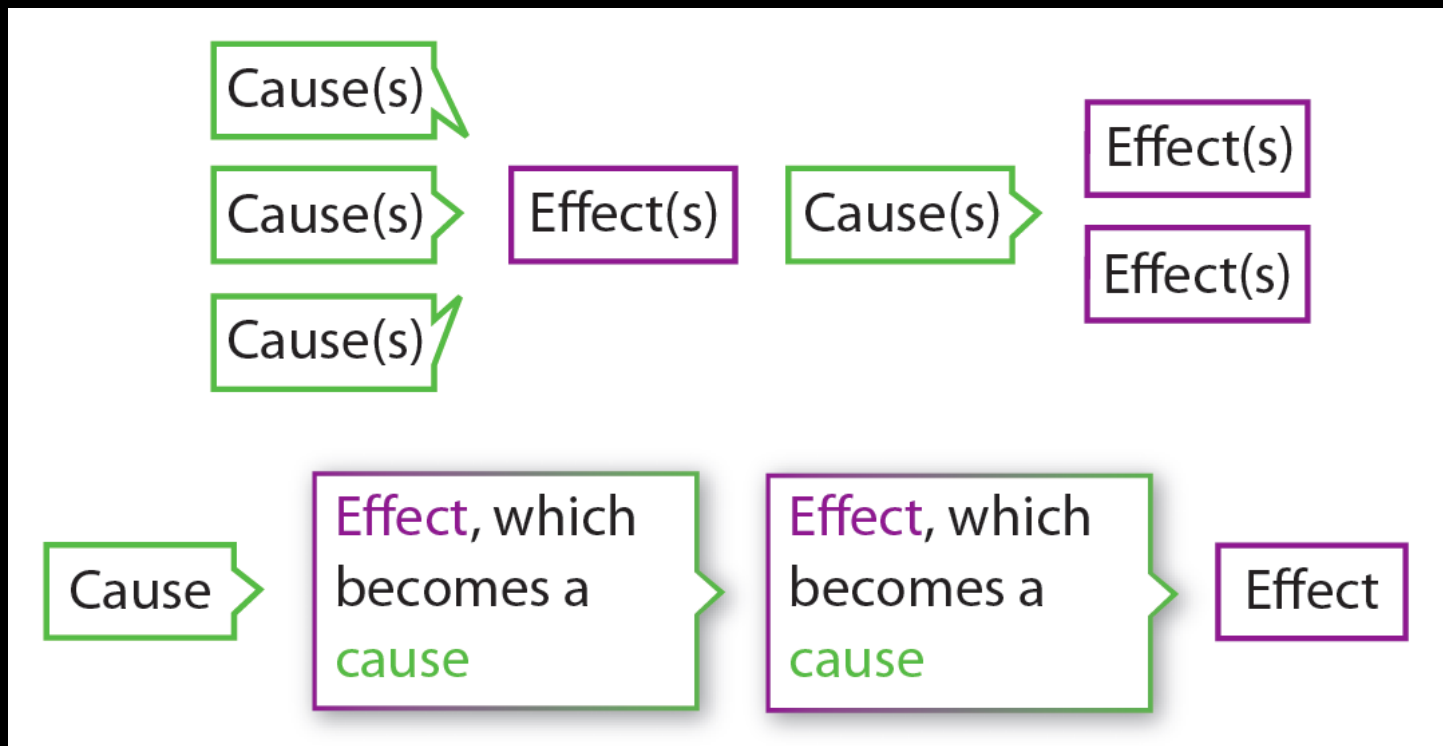
About the Pattern

- Cause-and-effect lets readers know what made something happen (causes), or what an event leads to (effects).
- May describe how a single cause leads to multiple effects, or how multiple causes create a single effect.
- A **causal chain** is where one cause leads to an effect, which then becomes the cause of yet another effect, and so on.

Cause-and-Effect

Reading Strategy

As you read, visualize that the causes and effects are linked by arrows.



Cause-and-Effect

Signal Words (Transitions) for Causes and Effects

For CAUSES

_____ causes
_____ creates
_____ allows for
_____ leads to
because _____
are due to _____
reason is _____
Is/are shaped by a number of
factors . . .

For EFFECTS

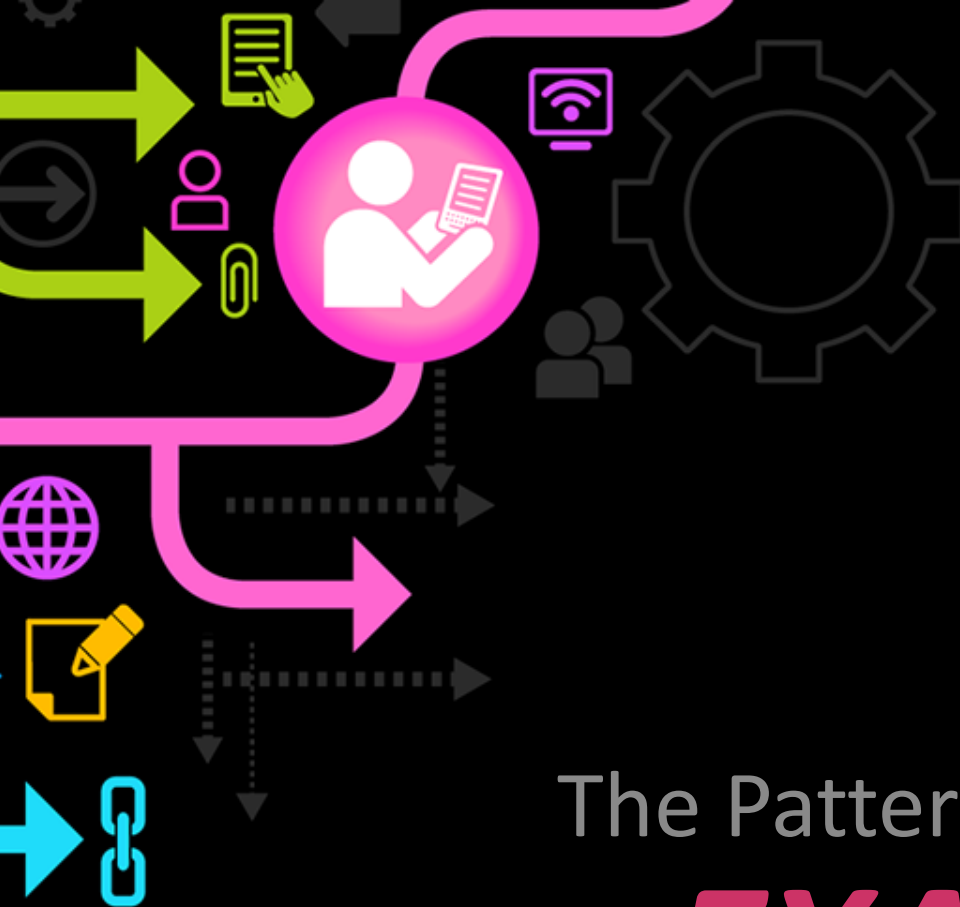
_____ depends on
causes _____
_____ where the effects
_____ is the result
leads to _____
makes (or made) _____
consequences are _____

Cause-and-Effect

Words that Express Degrees of Uncertainty

- It's often hard to be perfectly sure what causes what.
- Authors often express this uncertainty by using words like
 - may [cause, effect]
 - might, could [be a reason, lead to, be an effect]
 - tends to
 - possibly
 - to a degree, to some degree





The Patterns

EXAMPLES

Examples

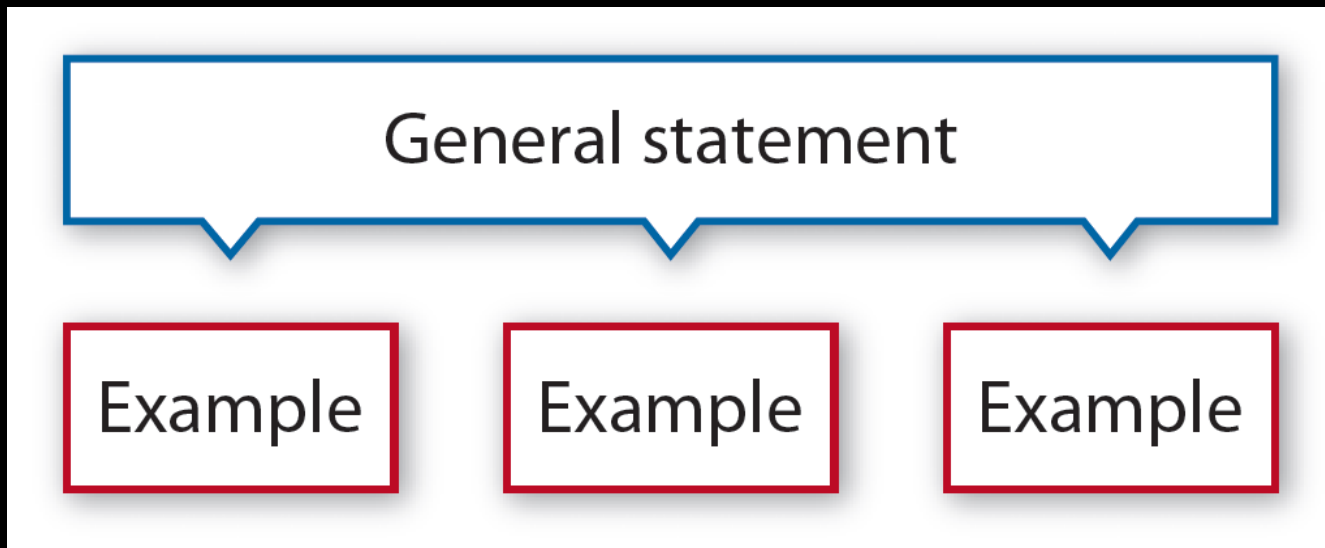
About the Pattern

Examples give specific, down-to-earth details that help readers understand the general statements a writer is making. Sometimes examples are organized in lists.

Examples

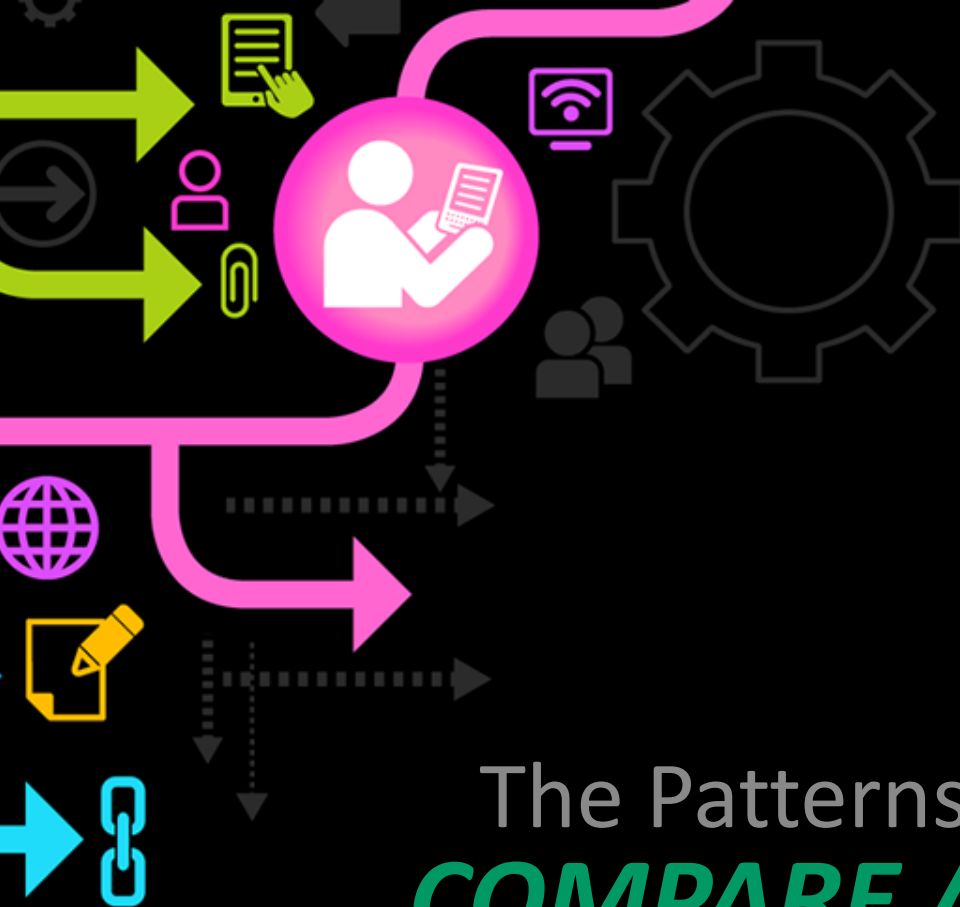
Reading Strategy

As you read, create a mental list of examples the author provides.



Signal Words (Transitions) for Examples

- For Examples
 - for instance,
 - to illustrate,
 - namely,
 - for example
- For Lists
 - in addition, also, add to this
 - first, second, third
 - first, and then



The Patterns
COMPARE AND CONTRAST

Compare and Contrast

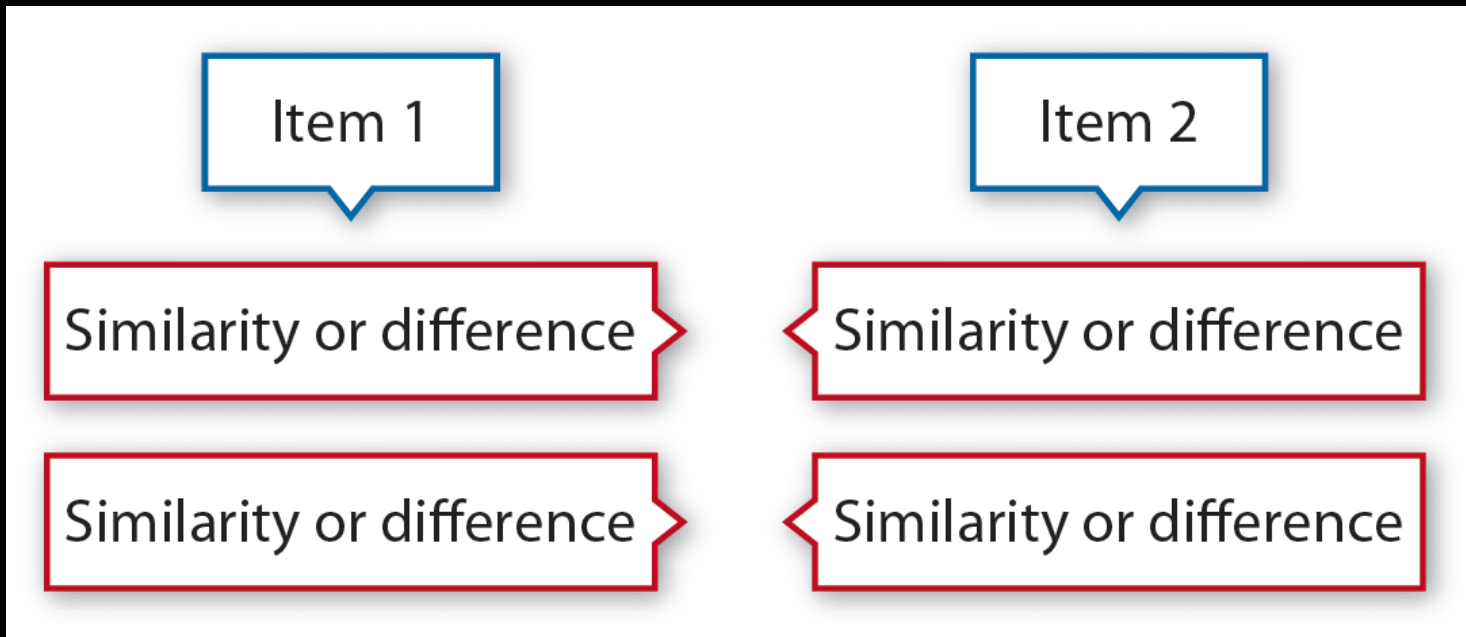
About the Pattern

- **Comparisons** show how two things are similar.
- **Contrasts** show how they are different.

Compare and Contrast

Reading Strategy

Mentally or on paper, form two lists, one for each item being compared or contrasted. Place information on each item appropriate list.



Compare and Contrast

Signal Words (Transitions) for Comparisons

Transitions for comparisons indicate sameness.

- the same, identical
- similar, similarly, a similarity
- alike, like, likewise
- both
- share
- agree
- not only . . . but also

Compare and Contrast

Similar Phrasing

At times, similar ideas are stated in sentences that have similar patterns

- Both of these singers
- These singers each
- The two singers
- Similarity of the singer's voices

Compare and Contrast

Minor Differences

- Two things are never exactly the same.
- Paragraphs on similarity may include differences between items to help readers keep track of which item is which.

Compare and Contrast

Signal Words (Transitions) for Contrast

Contrast emphasizes differences, so you will often see words like these in writing that contrasts:

- differs from, differs by, a difference
- contrasts with, in contrast, to the contrary
- on one hand . . . on the other hand
- however, although, but, while
- instead, rather

- The next slides will display a sentence.
- You will be asked to move to one side of the room or the other based on what pattern the sentence is describing.

A paragraph that can be re-written as a list.



Compare/Contrast

Examples

Signal words include “on one hand . . . on the other hand”

Compare/Contrast

Examples

A paragraph that describes how things are the same.



Compare/Contrast

Examples

A paragraph that includes real-world situations to make the information come alive.

Compare/Contrast

Examples

Signal words include “to illustrate” and “for instance.”



Compare/Contrast

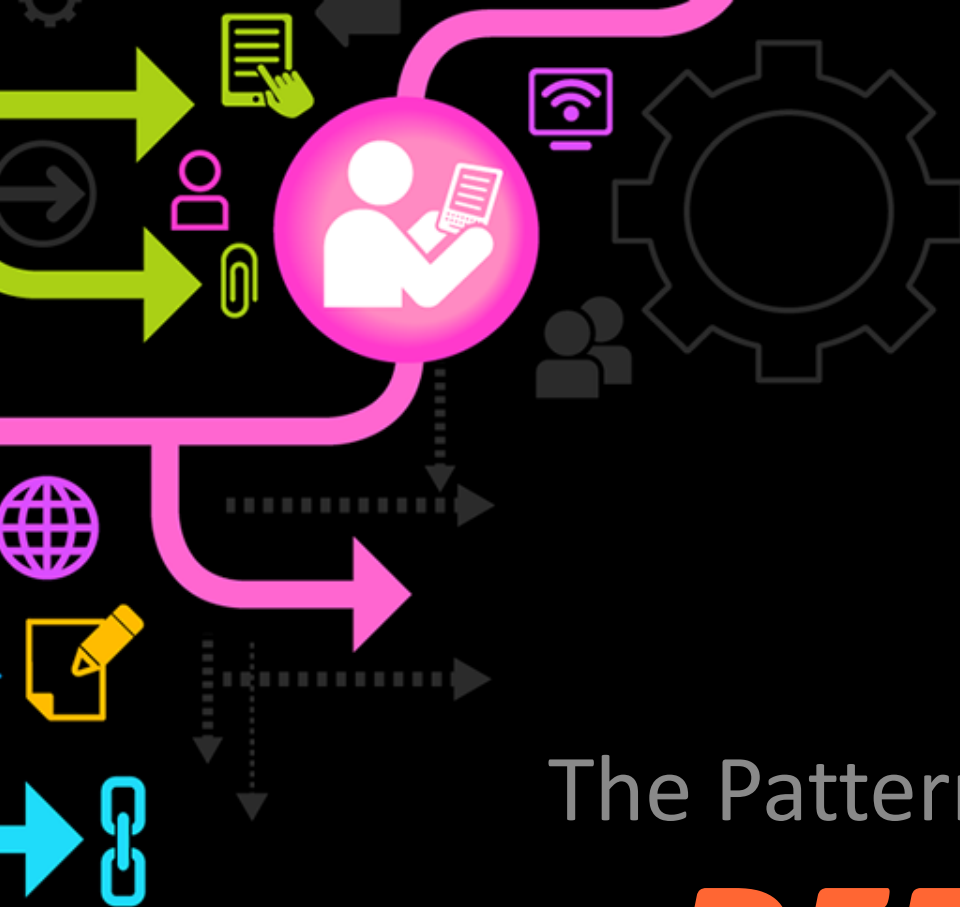


Examples

Signal words include “alike”, “identical”, and “share.”

Compare/Contrast

Examples



The Patterns

DEFINITION

About the Pattern

- Definitions answer the question: “What does this mean?”
- Definitions include the term being taught and a description of its meaning.

Compare and Contrast

Reading Strategy

As you read a definition, mentally slot the various parts of the definition into these categories:

General category

Specific type

Particular example

Compare and Contrast

Signal Words (Transitions) for Definitions

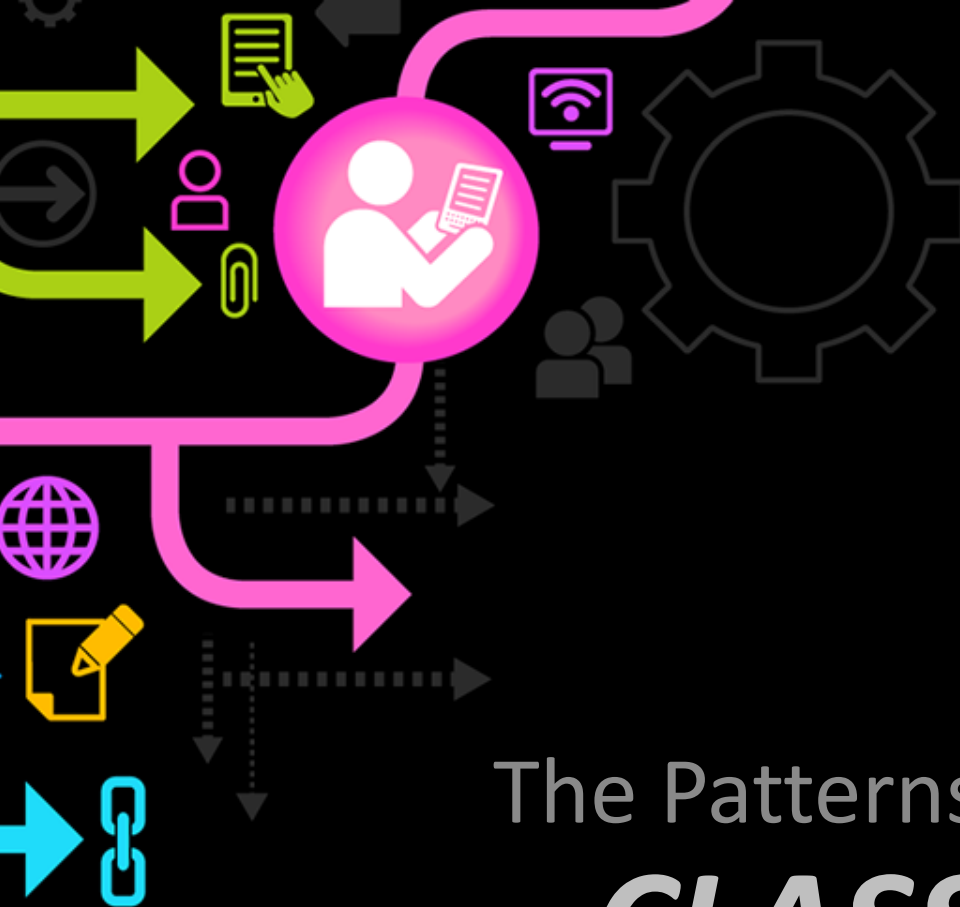
- is
- that is
- are called
- means, has come to mean
- can be understood as

Compare and Contrast

Examples Readers Can Relate To

Writers usually try to help readers understand new ideas by showing how they relate to familiar ideas. The following phrases are used to indicate that the writer is providing examples in support of a definition:

- for example, for instance
- to illustrate, to exemplify
- as an illustration, as an example



The Patterns
CLASSIFICATION

Classification

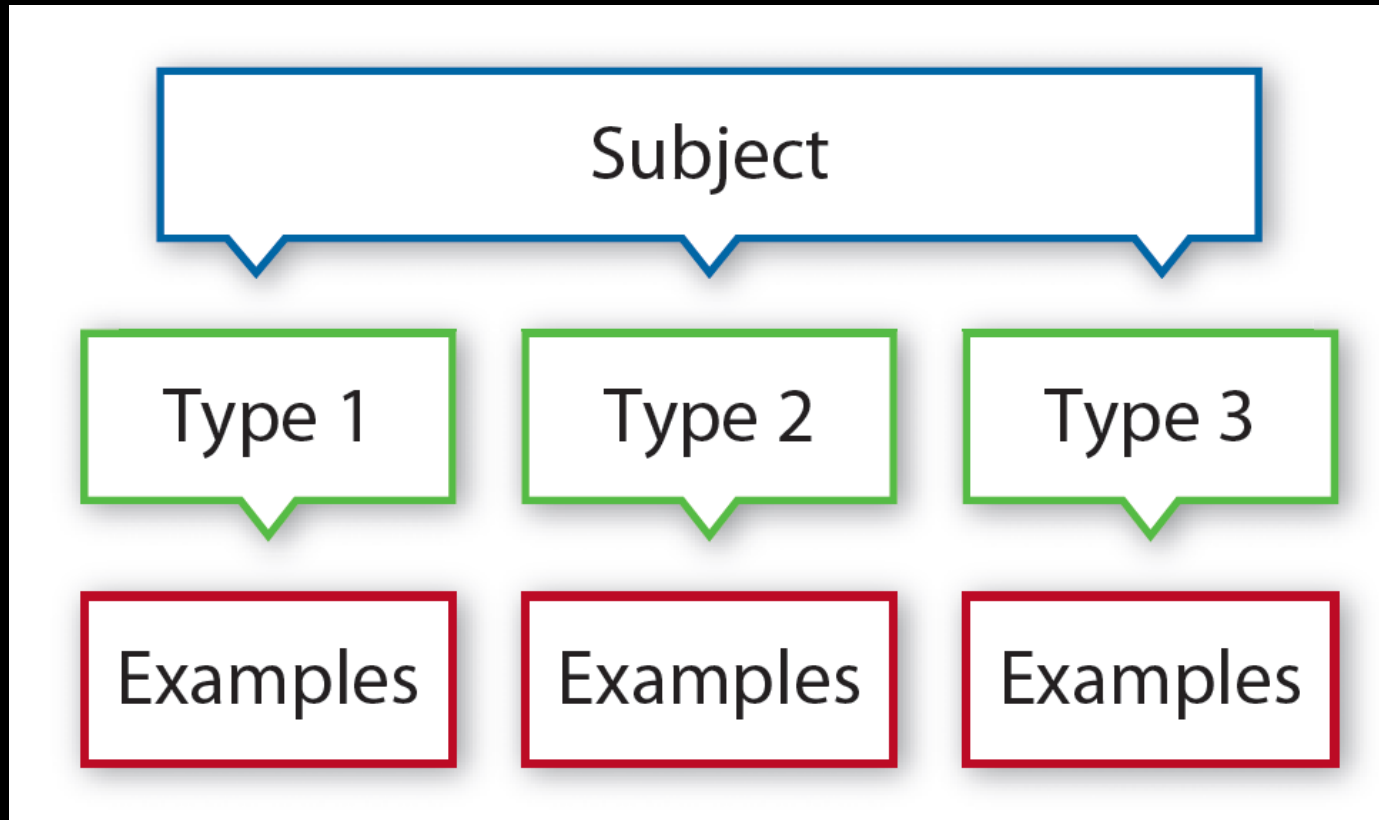
About the Pattern

- Classification tells readers what kinds of an event or thing exist.
- This pattern answers the question “What kinds are there?”

Classification

Reading Strategy

As you read, mentally slot the details into the following categories:



Signal Words (Transitions) for Classification

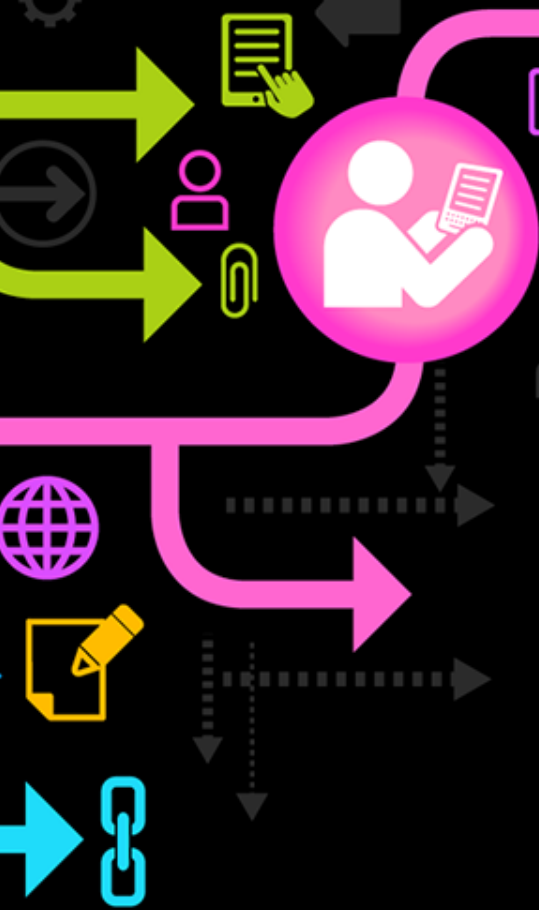
Division into kinds:

- several kinds
- certain forms
- three patterns
- four types
- different groups

Verbs that show the action of dividing up:

- divided into
- classified by
- split up





If you see a whole thing - it seems that it's always beautiful. Planets, lives... But up close a world's all dirt and rocks. And day to day, life's a hard job, you get tired, you lose the pattern.

- Ursula K. LeGuin