

## Student Journal copies:

### TIME ORDER / SEQUENCE:

Details of a topic are presented in specific order to show the order in which something happened or will happen.

**Guiding Questions:** Have you found events that happened, or will or should happen in a specific order or sequence? Have you found a series of steps leading to a specific product or outcome?

**Signal or Cue words that indicate order:**

first then after finally soon  
second next during following now  
third, etc. before while later until

### COMPARE AND CONTRAST:

Shows similarities and differences between topics, events, people, or things.

**Guiding Questions:** What items are being compared?

What's the same? What's different?

In what ways are they different?

What conclusions does the author reach about how they are alike or different?

**Signal or Cue words that indicate compare and contrast:**

the same on the other hand instead of  
both alike in spite of  
but as...as though  
however better, best even though  
either, or more, less despite  
in contrast to

### DESCRIPTION OR TOPIC:

Presents facts that describe the characteristics of specific persons, places events, or things.

**Guiding Questions:** What specific person, place, event, or thing is being described?

What are the most important characteristics or descriptors?  
Why is this description important?

**Signal or Cue words that indicate description or topic:**

appears to be in front of near  
as in onto along  
looks like above across  
below

### CAUSE AND EFFECT:

Tells the result of an event or occurrence and the reasons it happened.

**Guiding Questions:** Have you found what has happened?

Who or what made it happen or caused it to happen?

What outcome, process, or result is being explained (effect)? What are the causes for what happened?

**Signal or Cue words that indicate cause and effect:**

so the cause if...then...  
so that as a result of consequently  
because in order to leads to  
because of therefore for this reason  
accordingly effects of when...then...  
caused by may be due to