

Name: _____ Date: _____

Exploring Text Structures

"Text structure" is the term for how an author organizes information. Authors use different text structures to achieve different purposes, and one piece of writing can often have multiple text structures.

Directions: Common text structures are listed in the boxes on the right. Use the information in these boxes to help you answer the questions below about the text structures in "Mountain of Fire."

1. Find one text structure used in the first section of "Mountain of Fire." Which words or phrases helped you identify this structure?

2. A. Underline the text structure used in the section "Dangerous Weather Changes."

problem and solution compare and contrast

B. Explain how you know, using evidence from the text.

Description or List

Includes details to help you picture or get to know a person, a place, a thing, or an idea

Cause and Effect

Explains *why* something happened (cause) and *what* happened as a result (effect)

Problem and Solution

Presents a problem and explains how it is solved

Compare and Contrast

Presents the similarities and/or differences between two items, such as a pair of events, time periods, ideas, or places

Sequence of Events

Describes events in the order in which they happen (also called chronological order)

3. In the section "An Ancient Terror," the author lists a series of causes and effects.

A. Read the following cause. Explain its effect on the lines provided.

Cause: Thousands of years ago, Native Americans witnessed volcanic eruptions.

Effect: _____

B. Read the following effect. Write its cause on the lines provided.

Effect: Cities sprang up, logging companies built roads, and nature lovers flocked to the area around the mountain.

Cause: _____

4. In the section "Mount St. Helens Wakes Up," how does the author describe the activity underneath and in the mountain? What mood do these descriptions help create?

5. Eric's father has to solve several problems in the section "Blizzard of Ash." On the lines below, list each problem and how he solved it.
