

# Exploring Text Structure: *Winter Holidays*



## Text Structures:

- \*Cause and Effect
- \*Descriptive
- \*Compare & Contrast
- \*Sequence
- \*Problem & Solution

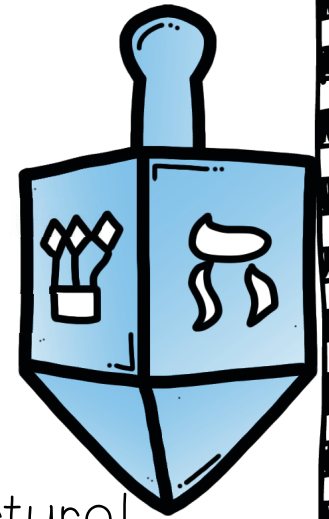
Created by  
Julie Mulherin

Llama  
with Class



# Notes about this product:

- There are many different ways that I use these text structure sets. I mix it up with my students, but no matter how I use them, I feel like my students benefit! The more text structure practice they have, the better they get at identifying the structures!
- I hand out one single paragraph page each day during a week. Students highlight their words and try to figure out the text structure. I walk around and check students' ideas. Once I verify the correct structure they unfold the page and start working on the organizer. After we complete each individual paragraph together, I have students complete the page with all the paragraphs on it as an assessment.
- Sometimes I randomly hand out the single paragraph pages to students. I have them fill out the organizers and get into groups of 5. I make sure each group has someone with each text structure. After they share with their groups, I have the students individually fill out the page with all the text structures on it. This helps hold my students accountable during sharing time.
- I love to use these pages during guided reading! We look at the page with all the paragraphs on it. Then I focus on one text structure and use that individual page.
- Thank you for your purchase! Be sure to leave feedback to earn credits for future products.
- Be sure to check out my other text structure packets.
  - Holiday Text Structures Topics include: New Year's, Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving, Winter Holidays, and Christmas
  - Social Studies and Science Text Structure topics include: Matter, Weather, Ecosystems, Space, US Government, and Native Americans
- Feel free to email me with any questions or for suggestions for future text structure products: [llamawithclass@gmail.com](mailto:llamawithclass@gmail.com)



I hope your class enjoys learning about text structure!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Text Structure: *Winter Holidays*



Text is written differently depending on the text structure. Match the correct text structure with each paragraph.

Compare and Contrast  
Cause and Effect

Descriptive  
Problem and Solution

Sequence

Text Structure: \_\_\_\_\_

Kwanzaa is a very special holiday that celebrates people coming together as a community.

The holiday was created by Dr. Maulana Karenga in 1966 specifically for the African American community. It uses a lot of ideas from African cultures and harvest celebrations. There are 7 main principles of Kwanzaa, and each principle is represented by a candle. The principles are Umoja (unity), Kujichagulia (self-determination), Ujima (collective work and responsibility), Ujamaa (cooperative economics), Nia (purpose), Kuumba (creativity), and Imani (faith). Each day families talk about each one of these main principles and why they are important. There are also different symbols such as crops, the place mat, an ear of corn, candles, candleholder, the unity cup and presents. On the final day of Kwanzaa, people exchange gifts. Kwanzaa is celebrated in December and focuses on community.

Text Structure: \_\_\_\_\_

Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday that celebrates the overcoming of problems that the Jewish people faced. A long time ago, the Jewish people were kicked out of their temple and told they had to worship different gods. This was a problem for the Jewish people because they wanted to follow their own religion. To solve this problem, they had a battle with the Greeks until they won their temple back. Once in their temple, they found another problem. They only had one day's worth of oil to light their candles. This problem was solved with a miracle! The oil that should have only lasted for one day, lasted for eight days. Hanukkah is a special celebration for Jewish people when they remember some of the problems they had, and a miracle they had as a solution.

Text Structure: \_\_\_\_\_

Many people who celebrate Christmas like to decorate with a live tree. To celebrate the holiday with a live tree, first you have to go to a tree farm. Once there, you will need to cut down the tree. Then, you have to bring it to your house.

Next, decorate your tree with Christmas lights. After the lights are hung, you can add ornaments. It is fun to put on ornaments because you can remember past Christmases. Then, you can put a star on the top of the tree. The finishing touch, includes putting presents under the tree!

Text Structure: \_\_\_\_\_

Both Hanukkah and Kwanzaa are winter holidays. During both holidays, candles are an important part of the celebration. For Kwanzaa, there are seven candles and they are placed in a candleholder called a Kinara. For Hanukkah, there are eight candles plus an additional candle used to light the other candles. Hanukkah candles are placed in a candleholder called a Menorah. In both celebrations, one candle is lit the first day. Each day after, a new candle is lit. During Hanukkah, the Jewish people celebrate a miracle. During Kwanzaa, African Americans celebrate their heritage, unity, and community values.

Text Structure: \_\_\_\_\_

Santa delivers gifts to children all over the world, but how he delivers the gifts depends on where kids live. In most of the United States, Santa delivers his presents with a sleigh and reindeer. He can use a sleigh because it is winter. However, it doesn't make a lot of sense for Santa to travel to Hawaii on a sleigh. Since Hawaii is made up of many islands, Santa arrives by canoe! Australia is also a large island where it is very warm. To deliver presents to the kids in Australia, Santa uses water skis or a surf board. Sometimes Santa changes his type of transportation based on where he is delivering gifts.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ *Winter Holidays*

Can you determine the text structure used? Read the paragraph below and highlight key words that help you determine text structure. Fill out the text structure and unfold your page to fill out the organizer.

- Possible Text Structures:
- \*Compare and Contrast
  - \*Sequence
  - \*Cause and Effect
  - \*Problem and Solution
  - \*Descriptive

Kwanzaa is a very special holiday that celebrates people coming together as a community. The holiday was created by Dr. Maulana Karenga in 1966 specifically for the African American community. It uses a lot of ideas from African cultures and harvest celebrations. There are 7 main principles of Kwanzaa, and each principle is represented by a candle. The principles are Umoja (unity), Kujichagulia (self-determination), Ujima (collective work and responsibility), Ujamaa (cooperative economics), Nia (purpose), Kuumba (creativity), and Imani (faith). Each day families talk about each one of these main principles and why they are important. There are also different symbols such as crops, the place mat, an ear of corn, candles, candleholder, the unity cup and presents. On the final day of Kwanzaa, people exchange gifts. Kwanzaa is celebrated in December and focuses on community.

Text Structure:

Fold here until the text structure is determined. Unfold to fill out the graphic organizer.

Topic

Supporting Details





Name \_\_\_\_\_ *Winter Holidays*

Can you determine the text structure used? Read the paragraph below and highlight key words that help you determine text structure. Fill out the text structure and unfold your page to fill out the organizer.

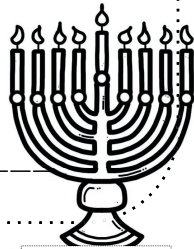
- Possible Text Structures:
- \*Compare and Contrast
  - \*Sequence
  - \*Cause and Effect
  - \*Problem and Solution
  - \*Descriptive

Both Hanukkah and Kwanzaa are winter holidays. During both holidays, candles are an important part of the celebration. For Kwanzaa, there are seven candles and they are placed in a candleholder called a Kinara. For Hanukkah, there are eight candles plus an additional candle used to light the other candles. Hanukkah candles are placed in a candleholder called a Menorah. In both celebrations, one candle is lit the first day. Each day after, a new candle is lit. During Hanukkah, the Jewish people celebrate a miracle. During Kwanzaa, African Americans celebrate their heritage, unity, and community values.

Text Structure: \_\_\_\_\_

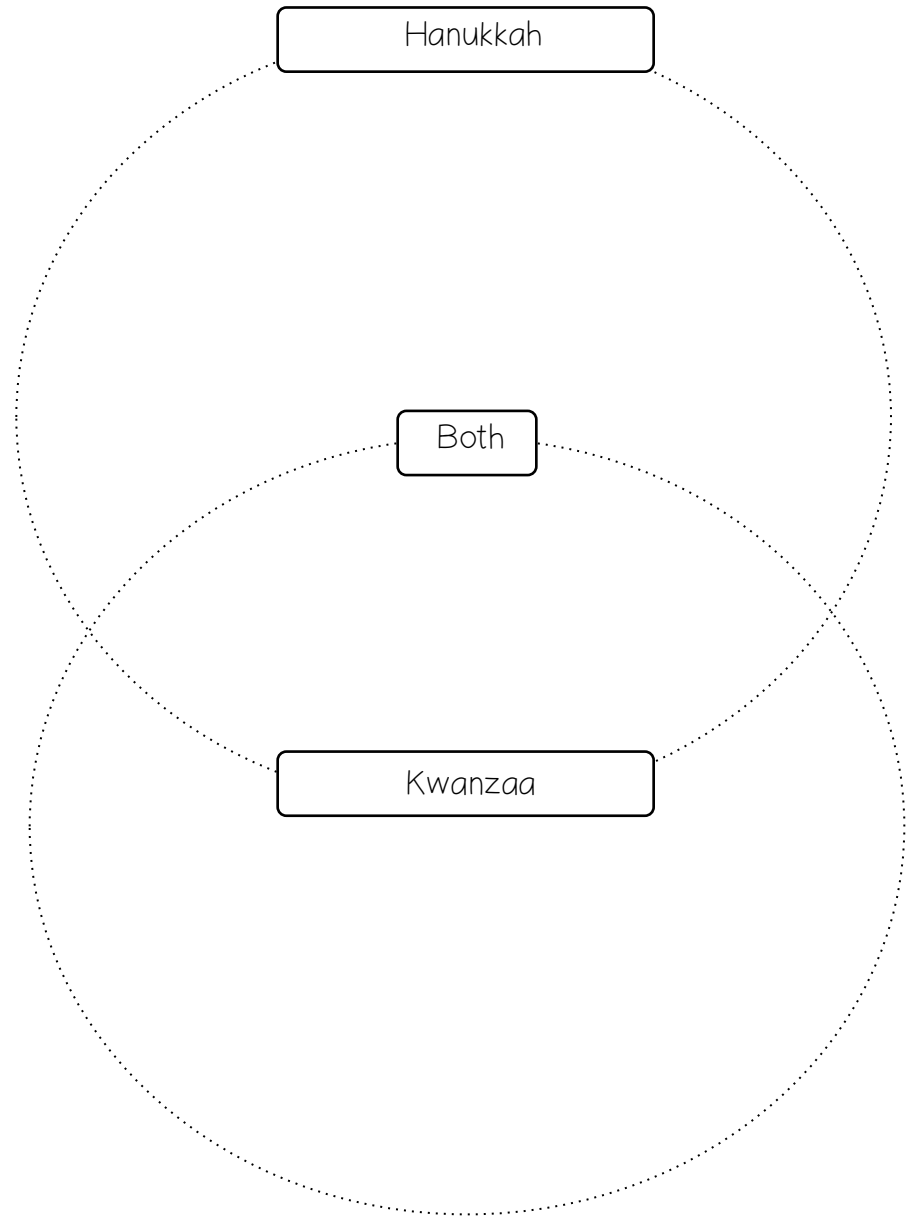


Kinara



Menorah

Fold here until the text structure is determined. Unfold to fill out the graphic organizer.

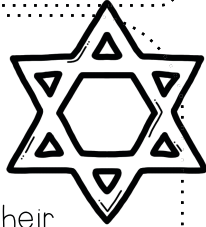


Name \_\_\_\_\_ *Winter Holidays*

Can you determine the text structure used? Read the paragraph below and highlight key words that help you determine text structure. Fill out the text structure and unfold your page to fill out the organizer.

Possible Text Structures: \*Compare and Contrast  
\*Sequence \*Problem and Solution  
\*Cause and Effect \*Descriptive

Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday that celebrates the overcoming of problems that the Jewish people faced. A long time ago, the Jewish people were kicked out of their temple and told they had to worship different gods. This was a problem for the Jewish people because they wanted to follow their own religion. To solve this problem, they had a battle with the Greeks until they won their temple back. Once in their temple, they found another problem. They only had one day's worth of oil to light their candles. This problem was solved with a miracle! The oil that should have only lasted for one day, lasted for eight days. Hanukkah is a special celebration for Jewish people when they remember some of the problems they had, and a miracle they had as a solution.

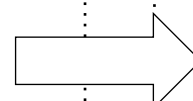
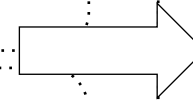


Text Structure:

Fold here until the text structure is determined. Unfold to fill out the graphic organizer.

Problems

Solutions



Name \_\_\_\_\_ *Winter Holidays*

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- Possible Text Structures:
- \*Compare and Contrast
  - \*Sequence
  - \*Cause and Effect
  - \*Problem and Solution
  - \*Descriptive

Many people who celebrate Christmas like to decorate with a live tree. To celebrate the holiday with a live tree, first you have to go to a tree farm. Once there, you will need to cut down the tree. Then, you have to bring it to your house. Next, decorate your tree with Christmas lights. After the lights are hung, you can add ornaments. It is fun to put on ornaments because you can remember past Christmases. Then, you can put a star on the top of the tree.

The finishing touch, includes putting presents under the tree!

Text Structure:



Fold here until the text structure is determined. Unfold to fill out the graphic organizer.

First

↓  
Next

↓  
Then

↓  
Next

↓  
After

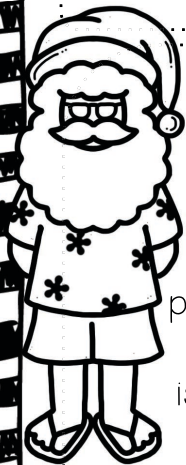
↓  
Then

↓  
Last

Name \_\_\_\_\_ *Winter Holidays*

Can you determine the text structure used? Read the paragraph below and highlight key words that help you determine text structure. Fill out the text structure and unfold your page to fill out the organizer.

- Possible Text Structures:
- \*Compare and Contrast
  - \*Sequence
  - \*Cause and Effect
  - \*Problem and Solution
  - \*Descriptive



Santa delivers gifts to children all over the world, but how he delivers the gifts depends on where kids live. In most of the United States, Santa delivers his presents with a sleigh and reindeer. He can use a sleigh because it is winter. However, it doesn't make a lot of sense for Santa to travel to Hawaii on a sleigh. Since Hawaii is made up of many islands, Santa arrives by canoe! Australia is also a large island where it is very warm. To deliver presents to the kids in Australia, Santa uses water skis or a surf board. Sometimes Santa changes his type of transportation based on where he is delivering gifts.

Text Structure:

\_\_\_\_\_

Fold here until the text structure is determined. Unfold to fill out the graphic organizer.

Causes

Effects

so

because

so

because

so

because



Name KFY Winter Holidays

Text is written differently depending on the text structure. Match the correct text structure with each paragraph.

- Compare and Contrast
- Descriptive
- Sequence
- Cause and Effect
- Problem and Solution

Text Structure **Descriptive**

Kwanzaa is a very special holiday that celebrates people coming together as a community. The holiday was created by Dr. Maulana Karenga in 1966 specifically for the African American community. It uses a lot of ideas from African cultures and harvest celebrations. There are 7 main principles of Kwanzaa, and each principle is represented by a candle. The principles are Umoja (unity), Kujichagulia (self-determination), Ujima (collective work and responsibility), Ujamaa (cooperative economics), Nia (purpose), Kuumba (creativity), and Imani (faith). Each day families talk about each one of these main principles and why they are important. There are also different symbols such as crops, the place mat, an ear of corn, candles, candle holder, the unity cup and presents. One the final day of Kwanzaa, people exchange gifts. Kwanzaa is celebrated in December and focuses on community.

Text Structure **Problem and Solution**

Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday that celebrates the of overcoming problems that the Jewish people faced. A long time ago, in 156 BCE the Jewish people were kicked out of their temple and told they had to worship different gods. This was a problem for the Jewish people because they wanted to follow their own religion. To solve this problem, they had a battle with the Greeks until they won their temple back. Once in their temple, they found another problem. They only had one days worth of oil to light their candles. This problem was solved with a miracle! The oil that should have only lasted for one day, lasted for eight days. Hanukkah is a special celebration for Jewish people when they remember some of their problems they had, and a miracle they had as a solution.

Text Structure **Sequence**

Many people who celebrate Christmas like to decorate with a live tree. To celebrate the holiday with a live tree, first you have to go to a tree farm. Once there, you will need to cut down the tree. Then, you have to bring it to your house. Next, decorate your tree with Christmas lights. After the lights are hung, you can add ornaments. It is fun to put on ornaments because you can remember past Christmases. Then, you can put a star on the top of the tree. The finishing touch, includes putting presents under the tree!

Text Structure **Compare and Contrast**

Both Hanukkah and Kwanzaa are winter holidays. During both holidays, candles are an important part of the celebration. For Kwanzaa, there are seven candles and they are placed in a candleholder called a Kinara. For Hanukkah, there are eight candles plus an additional candle used to light the other candles. Hanukkah candles are placed in a candle holder called a Menorah. In both celebrations, one candle is lit the first day. Each day after, a new candle is lit. During Hanukkah, the Jewish people celebrate a miracle. During Kwanzaa, African Americans celebrates their heritage, unity, and community values.

Text Structure **Cause and Effect**

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Winter Holidays

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Text Structure  
Descriptive

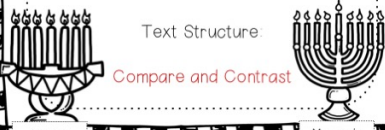
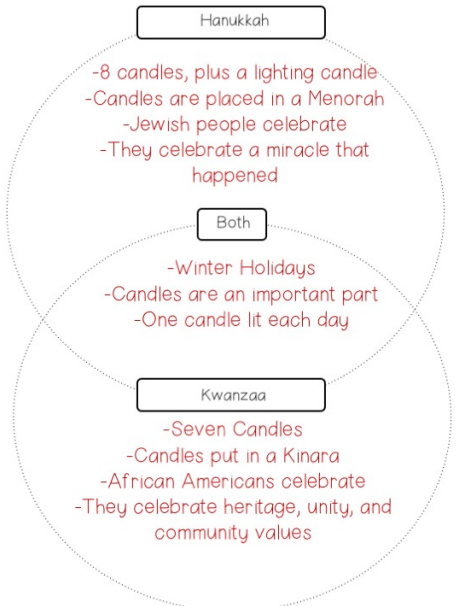


Name \_\_\_\_\_ Winter Holidays

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Text Structure  
Compare and Contrast

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Winter Holidays

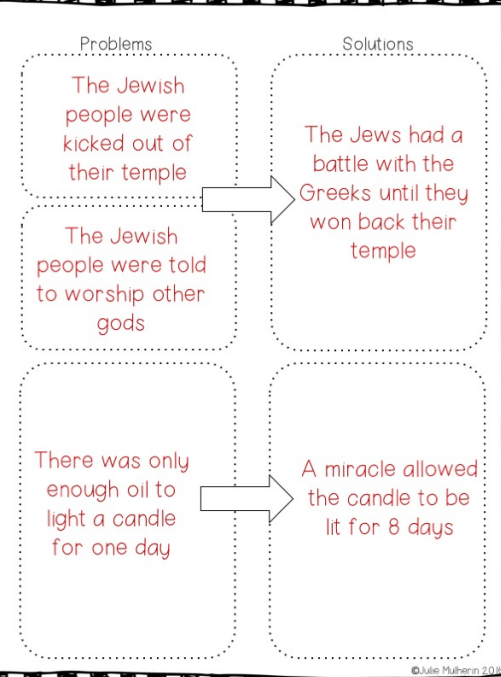
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- Possible Text Structures:
  - \*Compare and Contrast
  - \*Sequence
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  - \*Descriptive

Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday that celebrates the of overcoming problems that the Jewish people faced. A long time ago, in 156 BCE the Jewish people were kicked out of their temple and told they had to worship different gods. This was a problem for the Jewish people because they wanted to follow their own religion. To solve this problem, they had a battle with the Greeks until they won their temple back. Once in their temple, they found another problem. They only had one days worth of oil to light their candles. This problem was solved with a miracle! The oil that should have only lasted for one day, lasted for eight days. Hanukkah is a special celebration for Jewish people when they remember some of their problems they had, and a miracle they had as a solution.



Text Structure  
Problem and Solution




# Key

Name \_\_\_\_\_ *Winter Holidays*

Can you determine the text structure used? Read the paragraph below and highlight key words that help you determine text structure. Fill out the text structure and unfold your page to fill out the organizer.

Possible Text Structures: \*Sequence \*Compare and Contrast \*Problem and Solution \*Cause and Effect \*Descriptive

Many people who celebrate Christmas like to decorate with a live tree. To celebrate the holiday with a live tree, **first** you have to go to a tree farm. Once there, you will need to cut down the tree. **Then**, you have to bring it to your house. **Next**, decorate your tree with Christmas lights. **After** the lights are hung, you can add ornaments. It is fun to put on ornaments because you can remember past Christmases. **Then**, you can put a star on the top of the tree. The **finishing** touch, includes putting presents under the tree!



Text Structure: **Sequence**

Fold here until the text structure is determined. Unfold to fill out the graphic organizer.


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Name \_\_\_\_\_ *Winter Holidays*

Can you determine the text structure used? Read the paragraph below and highlight key words that help you determine text structure. Fill out the text structure and unfold your page to fill out the organizer.

Possible Text Structures: \*Sequence \*Cause and Effect \*Compare and Contrast \*Problem and Solution \*Descriptive

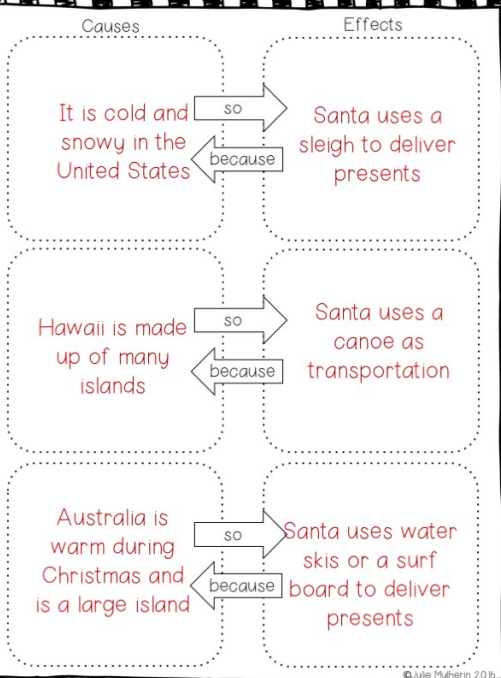


Santa delivers gifts to children all over the world, but how he delivers the gifts **depends on** where kids live. In most of the United States, Santa delivers his presents with a sleigh and reindeer. He can use a sleigh **because** it is winter. However, it doesn't make a lot of sense for Santa to travel to Hawaii on sleigh. **Since** Hawaii is made up of many islands, Santa arrives by canoe! Australia is also a large island where it is very warm. To deliver presents to the kids in Australia, Santa uses water skis or a surf board. Sometimes Santa changes his type of transportation **based on** where he is delivering gifts.

Text Structure: **Cause and Effect**

Fold here until the text structure is determined. Unfold to fill out the graphic organizer.

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# Sources

Information about Winter Holidays was found on various websites like:

- <http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/winter-celebrations/#WH-Tree-Lights16x9.jpg>
- <http://www.sheknows.com/parenting/articles/806884/hanukkah-facts-for-children>
- <http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/kwanzaa-history>
- <http://www.topmarks.co.uk/christmas/nativitystory.aspx>
- [https://www.africa.upenn.edu/K-12/Kwanzaa\\_What\\_16661.html](https://www.africa.upenn.edu/K-12/Kwanzaa_What_16661.html)



# ABOUT ME

Hi, I'm Julie from Llama with Class. I have my bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and my master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction. I am currently in my eighth year of teaching and my first year as a fourth grade teacher. Previously, I taught third grade. I love creating resources that not only help my students, but can help your students too!

**THANKS** for letting me be a part of your classroom with the purchase of this product!

♡ **JULIE FROM LLAMA WITH CLASS**

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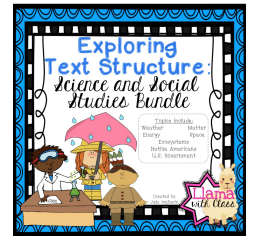
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