

Top-Level Structure: Signal Words

Chronological Sequence

after, afterwards, ago already, always, at last, at that time, at the same time, before, during, eventually, finally, first, first of all, following, further, immediately, initially, in the first place, in the meantime, in that moment, in that instant, last, lastly, later, now, not long after, next, once, presently, second, secondly, sometimes, soon, soon after, subsequently, suddenly, then, to begin with, today, until, while, PLUS: specific time indicators, such as names of days, months or years, times of day, etc.

Cause/Effect

accordingly, after, also, as a result, as if, as though, because, before, cause, consequence, consequently, effect, following, for this reason, hence, if, in order to, it follows that, not only, but, on account of, provided that, reason/s, since, so, so that, then, therefore, there upon, this led to, when, whenever, yet

Compare/Contrast

advantage, although, as opposed to, as well as, but, both, by comparison, compared with/to, conversely, differences, different from, disadvantage, even though, either ... or, however, in contrast, in like-manner, instead of, just as, likewise, neither, nevertheless, on the contrary, on the other hand, rather than, same as, similar to, similarly, unlike, some, than, unless

List/Description

additionally, in addition, also, another, approximate, approximately, a number of, at first, as well as, besides, features, first, for example, for instance, first, former, furthermore, include, last, latter, to illustrate, many, moreover, most important, much, next, numerous, parts, secondly, several, such as, the following, these, to begin with, types, various, PLUS:

- specific or general elements of measurement including words like litres/gallons or numerals
- punctuation markers which suggest detail or description may follow, such as commas or colons

**Note: This plan can be used without signal words.*

Problem/Solution

a solution, answer, assist, concern, decision, difficulty, help, how, issue, no, one answer is, problem, puzzle, question, resolve, solution, solve, yes

**Note: This plan can be used without signal words.*