

# Nonfiction Text Features

*nonfiction*  
**Text Features Chart**

Nonfiction  
**Text Features**  
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<p><b>Captions</b></p> <p>are words near a picture or photograph to help readers better understand it.</p>	<p><b>Comparisons</b></p> <p>help readers picture things in their head.</p> <p><b>Example: This shark is as big as a school bus.</b></p>	<p><b>Glossary</b></p> <p>Similar to a dictionary, a glossary helps readers define words from the book.</p> <p>*Hint: look towards the back of the book.</p>
<p><b>Graphics</b></p> <p>may include charts, graphs, or cutaways. They are used to help readers better understand what the author is saying.</p> 	<p><b>Illustrations &amp; Photographs</b></p> <p>help readers see exactly what something or someone looks like.</p>	<p><b>Index</b></p> <p>is an alphabetical list of ideas that are in the book. It tells readers what page the idea is on.</p> <p><b>friction - p. 15</b></p>
<p><b>Labels</b></p> <p>help readers identify a picture or a photograph and its parts.</p>	<p><b>Maps</b></p> <p>help readers understand where something is in the world.</p> 	<p><b>Special Print</b></p> <p>When a word is <b>bold</b>, in <i>italics</i>, or <u>underlined</u>, it is an <i>important</i> word for readers to know.</p>
 <p>Text features help organize information in the book so readers know what's important!</p>	<p><b>Subtitles</b></p> <p>are special headings that help readers know what the next section of text will be about.</p>	<p><b>Table of Contents</b></p> <p>helps readers identify key topics in the book in the order they are presented.</p> <p>*Hint: look towards the front of the book.</p>

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Teaching readers about nonfiction text features is easy-peasy with this simple chart. Hop over to [THIS READING MAMA](http://www.thisreadingmama.com) to see more recommendations on teaching and using it with readers.

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# Nonfiction Text Features

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## Captions

are words near a picture or photograph to help readers better understand it.

## Comparisons

help readers picture things in their head.

**Example: This shark is as big as a school bus.**

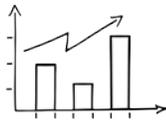
## Glossary

Similar to a dictionary, a glossary helps readers define words from the book.

\*Hint: look towards the back of the book.

## Graphics

may include charts, graphs, or cutaways. They are used to help readers better understand what the author is saying.



## Illustrations & Photographs

help readers see exactly what something or someone looks like.

## Index

is an alphabetical list of ideas that are in the book. It tells readers what page the idea is on.

**friction - p. 15**

## Labels

help readers identify a picture or a photograph and its parts.

## Maps

help readers understand where something is in the world.



## Special Print

When a word is **bold**, in *italics*, or underlined, it is an *important* word for readers to know.



## Subtitles

Text features help organize information in the book so readers know what's important!

are special headings that help readers know what the next section of text will be about.

## Table of Contents

helps readers identify key topics in the book in the order they are presented.  
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## free Fiction Text Structure chart

**Fiction Text Structure**  
Although not all fiction follows this plot structure, the most common structure for fiction is the problem/solution or rise/fall structure.

**Beginning**  
The characters, setting, and problem are introduced.

**Rise in Action**

**Climax**  
The character faces the problem head-on. The tension is the highest.

**Fall in Action**

**Resolution**  
Problems are resolved. The "good guy" usually wins.

**6 Kinds of Problems in Fiction Texts**

<p><b>Character vs. Character</b> A problem occurs between two of the characters in the story. The other character (antagonist) tries to stop the main character (protagonist) from reaching his goal.</p>	<p><b>Character vs. Society</b> The main character (protagonist) struggles against unjust laws or other traditions from society that conflict with his/her sense of justice or ethics.</p>
<p><b>Character vs. Self</b> The main character has an inner struggle with a personal character flaw, desire, or belief.</p>	<p><b>Character vs. Nature</b> A problem between the main character and nature, mainly in the form of severe weather or animals.</p>
<p><b>Character vs. Supernatural</b> The main character has to overcome something or someone that has supernatural characteristics, like characters with magical powers.</p>	<p><b>Character vs. Technology</b> Technology or a machine causes problems and the main character has to overcome it, often times destroying it.</p>

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## Understanding Nonfiction

### Text Features & Text Structures

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