

Text Structure and Language Features: Example 1



Text Structure - Explanation

Statement of phenomenon

Explanation sequence - series of events

THE LIFE CYCLE OF A GRASSHOPPER

Grasshoppers are insects. Adult male and female grasshoppers mate in late summer. After that, female grasshoppers lay eggs. Then both adults die.

The eggs hatch in spring. Newborn grasshoppers look like the adult grasshoppers but they don't have wings.

Next the young grasshoppers grow wings. They shed their skins or 'moult' five or six times as they grow bigger.

They are adults when their wings are as long as their bodies.

Language Features

Use of general nouns, e.g. grasshoppers

Use of variety of action verbs to build topic information, e.g. mate, die, shed, grow

Use of classifying adjectives, e.g. male, female, baby

Use of describing adjectives, e.g. young

Use of comparative adjectives, e.g. bigger

Use of time conjunctions, e.g. when

Note: 'then' can be inserted between sentences to indicate a time sequence of events